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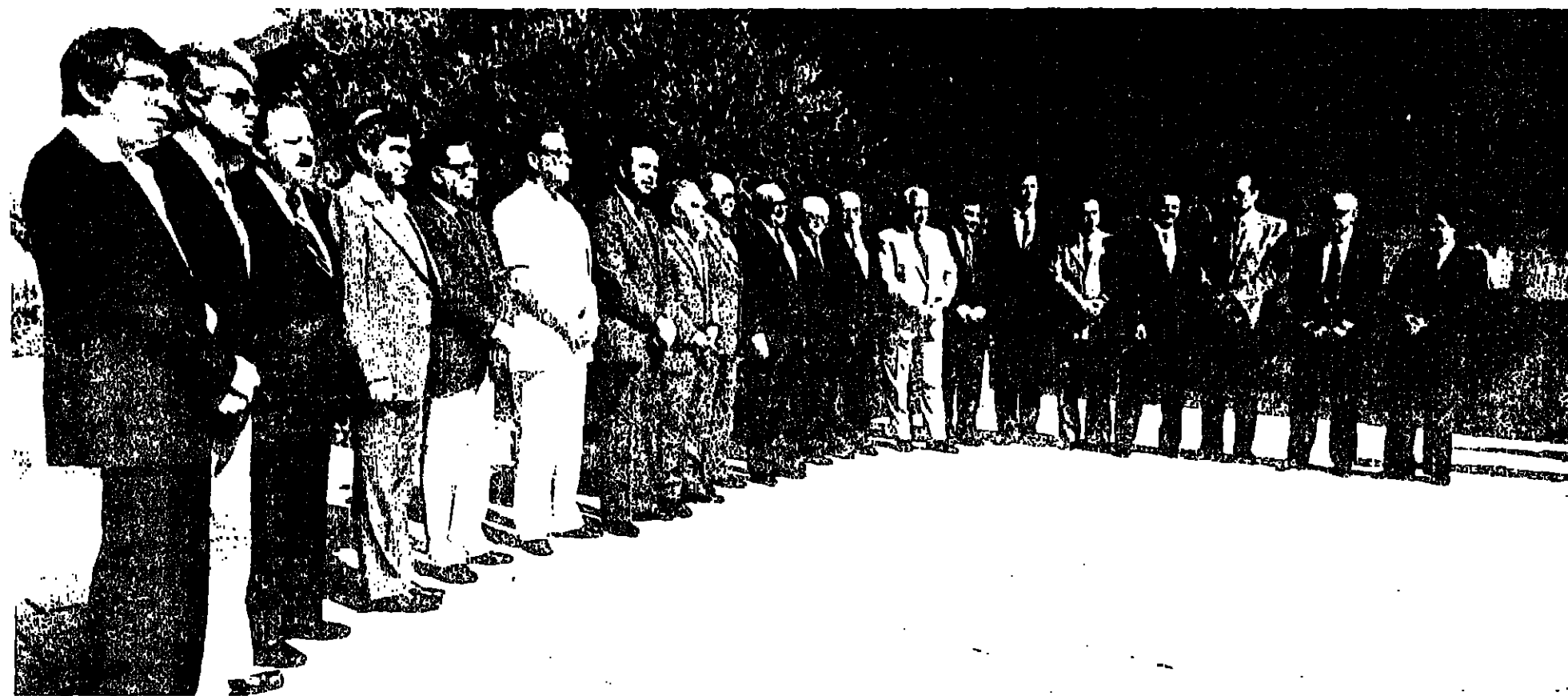
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THE LATEST
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President Yitzhak Navon poses with the new cabinet ministers on the grounds of Beit Hanassi. From left to right: Aharon Abuhatzela, labour and social welfare and absorption; David Levy, housing and construction and deputy prime minister-designate; Ya'acov Meridor, chief economic coordinator; Zevulun Hammer, education and culture; Haim Corfu, transport; Mordechai Zipori, communications; Gideon Patt, in-

dustry and trade; Yitzhak Shamir, foreign affairs; Prime Minister Menachem Begin; President Navon; Simha Ehrlich, agriculture and deputy prime minister; Yosef Burg, interior, police and religious affairs; Ariel Sharon, defence; Moshe Nissim, justice; Yoram Aridor, finance; Eliezer Shostak, health; Avraham Sharir, tourism; Yitzhak Moda'i, without portfolio; Yitzhak Berman, energy; Aryeh Naor, cabinet secretary. (Israel Sun)

Coalition under fire over concessions

Menachem Begin's new coalition, backed by a narrow majority of 61 of 120 Knesset members, began its term last week against a background of criticism, mainly about concessions to the religious parties. Economic circles warned of damage a

Sabbath-work ban and massive cash grants to orthodox institutions could cause. There was an outcry over new army service exemptions to yeshiva students. And hard-line policies brought predictions of diplomatic confrontation.

Harder line on West Bank

By DAVID LANDAU
Post Diplomatic Correspondent
The new government's basic policy lines on the West Bank and the peace process graphically highlight the difference between Menachem Begin's first administration and his second. It is a difference of personalities as much as of policies.

In fact, the policies that Begin will enunciate when he presents his new government are not new: they were laid down during his first administration. Then, too, the government "declared" (on May 3, 1979) that it "intends" to press Israel's

The new government: In-depth reports and comments from pages 7 to 13.

claim of sovereignty over the West Bank and Gaza after the five years of autonomy and that it will "never tolerate" a Palestinian state in those areas.

But then, two key ministers, Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and

Defence Minister Ezer Weizman, voted against these "declarations." They were supported by the other moderating element in the first Begin administration — Yigael Yadin and Israel Katz of the Democratic Movement.

Those dissenting votes were widely reported — and made their impact in Cairo, Washington and elsewhere.

Indeed, it was as a result of that forceful though minority opposition that Begin decided not to present these two "declarations" to Egypt as part of Israel's autonomy proposal. Instead, they were designated an "internal Israeli document."

Now, however, with Dayan and Weizman swept away, there are apparently to be no such restraints in the public pronouncement of policy. By incorporating these two declarations in the basic policy lines of his new government, Premier Begin is significantly hardening Israel's commitment to press for

(Continued on page 2)

Counting the costs

The coalition agreement with Agudat Yisrael substantially raises the amount of government aid allotted to yeshiva students. The Treasury estimates that the agreement will cost some \$1700m. (\$60m.) annually.

The Aguda has demanded that the state subsidy for each yeshiva student be upgraded to equal 65 per cent of the subsidy for each university humanities student, and seeks recognition of yeshivas as institutions of higher learning on the same level as universities.

But Hebrew University rector Raphael Mechoulam said that to compare the costs of teaching university students with yeshiva studies "is absurd."

"We conduct research, publish, in terms of the content and costs of study, are like high schools," he said.

Over the past few years, Aguda (Continued on page 2.)

Sharp reaction to Saudi proposal for Middle East

Jerusalem Post Staff

The Foreign Ministry has flatly rejected an eight-point Middle East peace plan issued by Saudi Arabia as totally unacceptable. The ministry spokesman in Jerusalem said that this reaction was based on media reports of the statement by Crown Prince Fahd.

Political circles in Jerusalem, quoted by Israel Radio, said the plan was part of a "plot to liquidate the State of Israel in stages, by getting the army out of the areas and then handing them to the enemy, setting up a Palestinian state and a general attack by all Arab states on Israel."

However other circles said the proposal should not be dismissed summarily.

The plan, put forth in an interview with the official Saudi press agency, was interpreted by some observers as recognizing Israel's right to "live in peace," if Israel allowed the creation of a Palestinian

state. This view was supported by unidentified cabinet ministers, quoted by Israel television, who called it a "turning point."

Energy Minister Yitzhak Berman told a radio interviewer that he saw one ray of light in the plan — it was a break in the "mystical-religious" barrier that had so far prevented the Arabs from making peace with Israel. "The Saudis are now on the Camp David wavelength, at least in principle," he said.

The plan called for:

- Israeli withdrawal from all territory occupied in the 1967 war.
- Removal of all Israeli settlements in the West Bank and other occupied areas.
- Guarantees of freedom of worship for all religious sects in the Holy Land.
- Recognition of the right of the Palestinian refugees to repatriation, or compensation for those who did not wish to return.
- A UN trusteeship in the West Bank and Gaza Strip during a tran-

(Continued on page 2.)

NEWSSTAND PRICES IN LOCAL CURRENCY			
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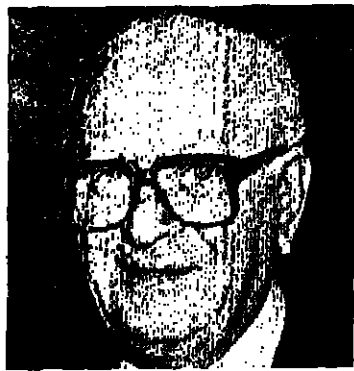
How El Al and industry could be affected

By SARAH HONG
Post Political Reporter

An immediate end to all flights on the Sabbath and Jewish holidays and closure of all sea ports on those days are among the clauses in the new coalition's guidelines, most of which deal with demands made by the religious parties.

Other undertakings in the basic policy manifesto include:

- Work on the Sabbath in government-owned firms, such as Israeli Railways and oil drilling companies, will end.
- Ambassadors and state emissaries will have to refrain from attending official functions on the Sabbath.
- Legislation against *kashrut* frauds will begin within three months.
- New wage scales for rabbis will be worked out.
- Housing estates will be built for religious young couples.
- Limitations will be imposed on the rights accorded to common-law wives.
- Hospitals will be run according to the *halacha*.
- Skeletons will not be removed



Simha Ehrlich... a way will probably be found for El Al.

from archaeological sites without rabbinical consultation.

- The feasibility of a five-day week will be given serious consideration. (Further details on page 8)

The most immediate problem is, likely to be raised by the clause that undertakes to ground El Al on the Sabbath and during holidays. This could increase El Al's annual deficit by about \$50m.

El Al's management and workers expressed fears that the ban on Sabbath flights would cause the airline irreparable harm.

The workers threatened to close down the airport if the ban is implemented and foreign airlines are allowed to profit at El Al's expense. They said it could cost 5,000 jobs.

In addition to closing the ports on Saturdays, the agreement says there will be stricter observance of the Sabbath in institutions that must continue their operations on Saturdays, such as airports and the Electric Corporation.

In addition, there will be far stricter control of Saturday work permits. Local by-laws on business on the Sabbath will also be more strictly enforced, and buses will not travel after the beginning of the Sabbath, nor resume their service before sundown Saturday.

Deputy Prime Minister Simha Ehrlich said that the new government would probably find some way of allowing El Al to operate "essential lines" on Saturdays as well.

El Al sources responded that perhaps all the airline's operations could continue on Saturdays and holidays, if their names were changed. El Al's present Sabbath flights are dubbed "pilgrims' flights."

COUNTING THE COST

(Continued from page 1)

institutions have received tens of millions of shekels from the government.

The State Comptroller had no power of supervision whatsoever over moneys which went to the Aguda's independent education system, and no way of determining how the public's money was being spent. But now the Comptroller will supervise all institutions which receive government funds, Finance Minister Yoram Aridor announced.

Aridor and his fellow coalition negotiators agreed with the Aguda representatives, who said that there is no reason for "discrimination" between yeshiva students and those at "other institutions of higher learning."

The clauses granting various degrees of exemptions from military service to yeshiva students are included in a letter from the new defence minister Ariel Sharon to the Agudat Yisrael Knesset faction. Its clauses include provisions for newly-observant men and women (*hozim b'shuva*) and all married women to be released from regular and reserve service.

The High Court of Justice has agreed to hear the petition of a Tel Aviv lawyer that it declare illegal the agreement reached between Defence Minister Sharon and Agudat Yisrael.

The argument of the lawyer, Yehuda Roessler, will be heard by a bench of three justices after the court recess at the end of this month.

Roessler claims that the distinctions made in the coalition agreement about exemptions for the newly religious and those who teach in yeshivot have no foundation in the law. Military service, the application says, is an obligation that falls

equally on all citizens, both men and women, without regard to their religious beliefs.

Roessler maintains that his standing on the issue rests on both private and public grounds. As a private individual, if those granted exemptions in the coalition agreement were to serve in the army, then his own reserve service would be reduced. On public grounds, he maintains that in a democratic society the burden of military service must be distributed fairly and without discrimination on the grounds of national security.

A group of 185 religious army reserve officers and other rabbis have presented a petition to Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Yoram Aridor, protesting against the exemptions granted the new religious.

The signatories protest that in the coalition agreement "the government of Israel gives legitimacy to the conception that Judaism and Zionism are mutually exclusive, and that becoming newly observant necessarily means cutting oneself off from Zionism."

"We view Zionism as an integral part of our Judaism," the signatories declared.

Deputy Prime Minister Simha Ehrlich, the Liberal party leader, last week sought to minimize the concessions made by the coalition to Agudat Yisrael over exemptions.

Ehrlich told *The Jerusalem Post*: "It only affects a handful of *hozim b'shuva*. I don't see what all the fuss is about. The newspapers have blown it up out of all proportion."

All the speakers in the Alignment faction caucus blasted the Likud for "abasing" itself before the religious parties and giving in to their personal and financial demands.

SHARP REACTION

(Continued from page 1)

sition period of a few months.

- Establishment of an independent Palestinian state with the Arab sector of Jerusalem as its capital.
- Guaranteeing the right of all states in the area to "live in peace."
- Guarantees of any agreement by the UN or "some of its members," presumably the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

"I am not the author or inventor of the above (proposals)," Fahd said in the interview. "They are resolutions issued by the UN General Assembly or Security Council. They can be put together in one single resolution issued by the Security Council to form a framework for a just and comprehensive settlement."

Israel television quoted cabinet members as calling the plan "a turning point" which was likely to broaden the Camp David framework for peace.

The unidentified ministers noted that Fahd's statement was the first time the Saudis have publicly expressed a willingness to formally recognize the Jewish State.

"Indeed, the conditions (of the plan) are most radical and are totally unacceptable to Israel," one of the ministers was quoted as saying. "But the readiness to recognize Israel must be viewed as a fundamental change in the Saudi position."

As for other elements in the plan, observers in Jerusalem pointed out that they negate long-standing

THE WASHINGTON SUMMIT

Reagan 'No' to Sadat call for PLO role

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Secretary of State Alexander Haig said last week that the U.S. would not change its longstanding position against dealing with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

President Ronald Reagan made this clear during meetings last week with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, who had recommended a change in U.S. policy towards the PLO, according to Haig.

At a State Department news conference, Haig said that American "fidelity" around the world would be endangered if the U.S. moved away from its 1975 commitment to Israel on this sensitive matter.

The secretary said that both Reagan and Sadat, who had held two days of talks at the White House, "understood and accepted each other's position."

Repeatedly, Haig noted that the existing Camp David framework accord provided an alternative to direct PLO involvement. He mentioned the possibility of inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza joining the talks — as envisaged at Camp David.

Sadat, at a Blair House press conference, said that the PLO was not

necessarily the sole representative of the Palestinians.

He said that those Palestinians "under occupation" could be alternative representatives. This was seen as a clear reference to the West Bank and Gaza mayors — a formula earlier envisaged by Israel itself.

The Egyptian leader summed up his talks with Reagan by insisting that he was "fully satisfied" in all the areas of discussion. "It is now for the man (Reagan) to study and review," he said.

Sadat said the "scenario" he presented to Reagan for achieving additional progress was only one option, and that Egypt remained open to other possibilities.

He strongly denied that Egypt's position towards Israel and peace in the Middle East would change following the April 1982 withdrawal from Sinai. He said Egypt's position will remain the same "before and after the withdrawal."

While Israeli officials here were pleased to hear Haig reaffirm the longstanding U.S. objections to the PLO, they were disappointed that the secretary, in response to a specific question, pointedly refused to label the PLO a "terrorist" organization, as he and Reagan had earlier done.

The secretary merely noted that "certain elements" of the PLO could be considered Soviet sur-

rogates or terrorists. He said there were "diverse groups" under the PLO umbrella. This was "evident," he said, during the recent negotiations leading to the cease-fire along the Lebanese-Israeli frontier.

Haig made clear that the U.S. and Egypt hoped to move forward now with the Camp David negotiations on Palestinian autonomy.

Haig said that the most important aspect of the Reagan-Sadat summit was their establishment of a close personal rapport.

Other senior U.S. officials said that the U.S. would not consider talking with the PLO unless that organization first accepted Israel's right to exist and UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

The two UN resolutions, approved in 1967 and 1973, call for negotiations leading to Israeli withdrawal from the administered territories in exchange for Arab recognition of Israel.

Sadat, who is aware of this U.S. position, repeatedly pointed out during his first encounter with Reagan that Israel itself has just reached a *de facto* cease-fire agreement with the PLO in South Lebanon.

Speaking at a White House state dinner, the Egyptian leader said: "In effect, it means that for the first time the Palestinians have come close to endorsing the peaceful

solution. Those who are genuinely interested in peace in the Middle East should recognize this positive development and build upon it for the good of all nations."

Repeating what he had stated at a London news conference and earlier here, Sadat looked at Reagan and said: "You can help this process of reconciliation, Mr. President, by holding a dialogue with the Palestinians through their representatives. This is certain to strengthen the forces of moderation among them. It would also undermine the designs of those who exploit the present state of affairs for their own selfish ends. It would be an act of statesmanship and vision."

In his toast, Sadat did not refer to the PLO by name, always speaking more generally of Palestinians. His aides later said that the PLO was the recognized representative of the Palestinians, although they acknowledged that it may be more feasible to bring West Bank and Gaza mayors into the negotiations, as an initial alternative to the PLO.

Reagan, in his toast, did not mention the word Palestinians at all. Indeed, throughout the Sadat visit here, the U.S. president did not speak directly about the Palestinian question in any of his carefully prepared comments.

(Sadat meets Jewish leaders, page 4.)

Congressman's idea for putting pressure on Israel

Post Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — A Republican congressman from California has suggested that the U.S. revoke the tax-exempt status of private Jewish charities supporting Israel unless Prime Minister Menachem Begin agrees to negotiate with the PLO.

Representative Paul McCloskey, writing in *The Los Angeles Times*, also said that Begin should accept the creation of "an autonomous Palestinian homeland" on the West Bank and Gaza as well as the Reagan administration's proposed sale of AWACS aircraft to Saudi Arabia.

In urging the administration to pressure Israel to accept these three conditions, McCloskey said: "Because over one-third of all U.S. foreign aid — \$1.4 billion in military assistance and \$800 million in economic aid — goes to Israel, a cutoff of this aid might well constitute the required force."

"Similarly, if forcing Israel to the bargaining table entails abolishing the tax exemption on U.S. citizens' private gifts to the Jewish state, then Congress should take that step."

McCloskey has long been considered unfriendly towards Israel by American Jewish activists on Capitol Hill.

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No more PLO-Jordan money for West Bank

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH
Jerusalem Post Reporter

West Bank leaders last week warned that municipal services throughout the territories would be seriously affected by a recent decision of the military government banning the receipt of money from the Joint Jordan-PLO Committee in Amman.

"Services will be totally paralysed," said one prominent leader. "Some municipalities won't have money to clean streets."

Military government sources indicated that alternative financing sources would be found.

The decision is part of the military government's new hard-line policy towards PLO links with the territories. West Bank mayors and other leaders have been warned in recent days against any contact with PLO officials during trips abroad and against issuing any public statements supporting the PLO.

The committee has been providing the bulk of financing for towns and villages in the West Bank and Gaza Strip since its creation by the Arab countries participating in the Baghdad Conference of 1978. The Arab states were to channel \$100 million annually to the municipalities and other institutions in the territories through the committee, which is made up of four Jordanian and four PLO representatives.

But according to one West Bank source, only \$70m. was actually channelled in during the last fiscal year.

These funds provide 60 per cent of the municipal operating budgets and 100 per cent of their development budgets, according to the source. The rest of the operating budgets come from local taxes and the military government which fun-

nels back petrol taxes to the municipalities.

Military government sources said last week that the ban was a natural outgrowth of the recent decision to enforce the long-standing ban on contacts with the PLO.

"Any contact with the committee is contact with the PLO," said one source. Asked whether the municipalities might turn to the Jordanian government for financial help, he said that "we haven't banned the acceptance of money from Jordan."

As for the possibility that the military government might itself provide the money needed by the municipalities, the sources said "that's one of the things we are examining. We must look after the population." He said he did not think it possible for the municipalities to receive money from the committee without the Israeli authorities knowing it.

Municipalities wishing to submit a budget request to the joint committee first submitted it to the military government for approval, itemizing the request and citing "Arab sources" as the source of financing. The list was then passed on to the joint committee which generally approved the requests, the money being deposited in a bank in Amman. Some municipalities dispatched emissaries to carry the money in dinars across the Jordan River bridges in attache cases.

"In our municipality, we have more sophisticated ways of transferring the money," said one West Bank official.

The Jordanian government has also been forwarding funds directly on a monthly basis to several thousand teachers, public officials and other civil servants serving under Jordanian aegis in the territories at the time of the Six Day War.



Defence Minister Ariel Sharon reviews an honour guard at the Ministry of Defence after taking up his new post last week. (UPPA)

Sadat meets with U.S. Jewish leaders

By LEON HADAR
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

NEW YORK. — President Sadat, after his talks with President Reagan, met in New York with 14 Jewish leaders at the residence of the Egyptian ambassador to the UN, Abdul Maguid. He repeated his call for a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue and characterized the PLO agreement to abide by the American-sponsored cease-fire on the Israeli-Lebanese border as a "turning point" in the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Howard Squadron, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, emphasized to the Egyptian president that the American-Jewish leaders regarded the Palestine

Liberation Organization as a terrorist organization aimed at destroying Israel and that it should first recognize Israel's right to exist before the Jewish state can start negotiating with it.

Squadron also told Sadat that American-Jewish opinion was united with respect to three issues — the unity of Israel under Jewish sovereignty, belief in the ultimate success of the Camp David process, and that Israel's defence should be solely in Israel's hands.

Among the leaders were Max Fisher, chairman of the board of governors of the Jewish Agency, Charlotte Jacobson, chairman of the World Zionist Organization, American section, Frieda Lewis, president of the American-Jewish leaders regarded the Palestine

Organization of America, and Maynard Wishner, President of the American Jewish Committee.

Before meeting the leaders, Sadat held a private meeting with Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress.

Initially, Sadat invited only Bronfman for a meeting in New York. But following Bronfman's suggestion, it was decided to invite the others who are members of the presidents' conference.

During the discussions Sadat stressed the need to encourage the Saudis to join the peace process and emphasized that despite coolness in Egyptian-Saudi relations, he will allow the Americans to use Egyptian military bases in order to guarantee the security of Saudi Arabia.



Shula Ohanuma, 21, was crowned beauty queen at the Second International Conference of the Jewish Deaf in Jerusalem last week. Ohanuma, of Ramatana, is a dress designer.

Outgoing press officer feted in Washington

AFTER BEING given a tribute by several top Washington journalists, the press officer at the Israeli embassy there, Avi Pazner, last week left for home following seven years in the American capital.

Pazner, a career diplomat, was feted at a farewell luncheon at the nearby Potomac estate of Esther and Jack Coopersmith, local fund raisers and political activists.

Luminaries of the Washington press corps joined Israeli diplomats, members of congress, leaders of the local Jewish community and others in honouring Pazner and his wife, Marti.

CBS news diplomatic correspondent Diane Sawyer called the Israeli diplomat a "hero" of Washington reporters because of his "unique" ability to serve the needs of both his government and the news media. Sawyer, herself a former press official in the Nixon White House, pointed out that such dual ability was rare.

Pazner's successor is Nachman Shai, who has spent the past two years serving as spokesman at the Israeli mission to the UN. He is on loan to the Foreign Ministry from Israel Television, where he was military affairs correspondent.

Israel F-16 fighters not grounded

Jerusalem Post Reporter and Agencies

The Israel Air Force has not grounded any of its F-16 jet fighters, military sources said at the weekend even though the U.S. Air Force has grounded its F-16s because of problems with the plane's flight control computer.

The sources said the IAF is checking each of its planes for any signs of the problem.

Israel, along with the four European nations that have the F-16s,

has received information from the U.S. on the malfunction and is conducting appropriate checks, the sources said.

Meanwhile, the administration of President Ronald Reagan says it hasn't yet decided when to lift the suspension of F-16 deliveries to Israel.

Shipment of a total of 10 F-16s are currently suspended in U.S. following Israel's bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor and of the terrorist headquarters in Beirut.

Archeological project stirs religious row

By AVRAHAM RABINOVICH
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Ten *haredim* (ultra-orthodox Jews) were arrested last week following an assault on archeologists at the City of David excavation, and there were riots in the Mea Shearim quarter in Jerusalem to protest the arrests.

Dr. Yigal Shilo of the Hebrew University and director of the digs, was injured in the general melee that followed an invasion by more than 100 *haredim* of the site in which remains from the period of David and Solomon are being excavated. The protesters maintain that

Jewish graves are in danger of being uprooted, by the dig. According to Jewish religious law, a grave may not be disturbed regardless of its age.

The police and the archeological team scuffled in the dust before reinforcements of Border Police managed to drive the protesters out of the excavation perimeter. In an unusual departure from the norm, a number of ultra-orthodox women joined the men.

Shilo, a strapping ex-paratrooper, was set upon by a group of *haredim* after being lured aside by one who said, "I'd like to talk to you." Shilo

had been injured the day before when falling off a wall in the excavations, but still managed to land effective punches on several of his assailants. He continued to work after the demonstrators dispersed.

The site invaded by the *haredim*, known as "Afeq G," is a small section containing remains from the 10th Century B.C., when Jerusalem was ruled over by David and Solomon.

A spokesman for Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren said last week that Goren, who had visited the site, recommended not digging because of the danger of violating graves.

Burg defends his record on prisons

By JEFFREY HELLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Interior Minister Yosef Burg broke his silence last week over the findings of the Prisons Service Investigating Committee, but offered no immediate hope of relief to those incarcerated in Israel's jails.

In a letter to Prime Minister Menachem Begin, Burg underlined the improvements made in the prisons by the Interior Ministry during the last four years.

Since the Interior Ministry took the Prisons Service under its wing in 1977, the capacity of the jails has been increased by 1,400, Burg said.

There are more prison guards than ever before and they are now receiving higher salaries and prisoners enjoy an additional 2,500 square metres of working space, he said.

In its report the committee charged that the situation in the country's prisons has become critical and recommended that the Prisons Service be removed from the jurisdiction of the Interior Ministry.

The committee described conditions in Israeli prisons as "unfit for humans" and said overcrowding had brought the situation in some prisons to the verge of an "explosion."

But Burg said the report "did injustice to the government's efforts to improve the conditions of prisoners and prisons."

Burg said he would reserve final comment on the committee's findings until it finishes its work and releases a second and perhaps third part to the initial report.

The conditions of the prisons, Burg said, were known before the committee began work, but he felt the study — which took two and a half years to partially complete — needed to be officially issued to give credence to his ministry's demands that the situation be improved.

In the section dealing with living conditions at Ramle Prison, the committee says it found the situation to be "critical, unbearable and in need of drastic change."

Security arrangements in Ramle Prison are no more commendable than that of the prisoners' living conditions. "It is sufficient to point to one incident, the escape of eight prisoners on January 8, 1981, to show that there are basic deficiencies in the prison's security arrangements," the report says.

Foreign experts shun meeting

By MARY HIRSCHFELD
Haifa

Six scientists from the USSR and dozens from other countries have cancelled participation in the International Conference on Simulation and Gaming, to take place at Haifa University and the Technion this month, because of the security situation in the north.

The Russian delegation was to be headed by the chairman of the Institute for American and Canadian studies at the Soviet Academy of Sciences, V. Bogdanov.

Bogdanov phoned a few weeks ago to communicate his delegation's change of heart. He promised,

however, that they will try to come for a symposium on the "Future of the Middle East," in December.

"Many declined our invitation or decided to cancel at the last moment, for fear of Arab reprisals," Prof. Joseph Ben-Dak of Haifa University noted. "Others simply did not give any reasons, like Holland, which was to send a 50-member group."

Simulation is a very old technique, Technion expert Dr. Hubert Law-Yone explained. "It is a way of learning how to cope with a specific problem by reproducing it under laboratory conditions."

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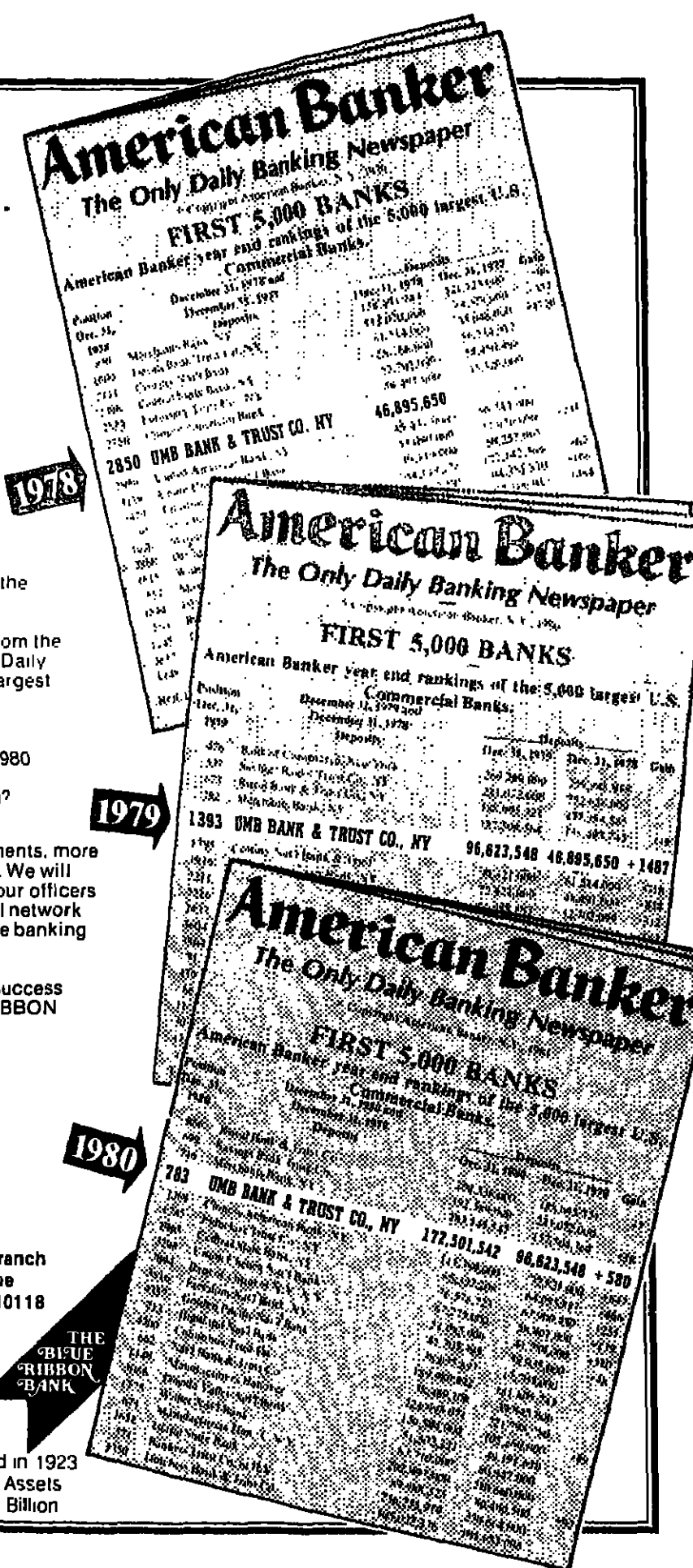
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Sharp rise in purchase of durable consumer goods

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Per capita consumption in the first quarter of 1981 was 4.3 per cent higher than in the last quarter of 1980, continuing a rise of 3-4 per cent in the preceding two quarters.

The estimates of the Central Bureau of Statistics released on Friday show that per capita consumption in January-March was 2-3 per cent higher than in the same period last year, reversing a downturn which started in mid-1979.

The estimates show a particularly sharp rise in purchases of durable consumer goods. The 20 per cent rise in the first quarter of the year continued increases of 11 and 39 per cent, respectively, in the two preceding quarters.

Among these consumer durables, purchases of television sets rose by 35 per cent, after a rise of 100 per

cent in the last quarter of 1980. However, there was a slowdown in the acquisition of refrigerators and washing machines, the consumption of which rose by 17 and 5 per cent, respectively. Purchases of furniture grew by 2 per cent per capita.

The estimates on per capita consumption are supported by data on retail sales which, the CBS says in another release, grew by 5 per cent last year, reversing a downturn following a 10 per cent rise in the first quarter.

In the first half of 1981, retail sales were 11 per cent higher than in the second half of 1980, which recorded a 5 per cent rise over the first half of 1980.

All the estimates are in real terms, and adjusted for seasonal fluctuations.

James Parkes, theologian at 84

James Parkes, theologian, historian and pioneer of modern Christian understanding of Judaism, died last week in Southampton, England, at the age of 84, after a long illness.

An Anglican clergyman, he became involved in the battle against anti-Semitism in the 1920s,



while working at the International Student Service in Geneva. His first book, *The Jew and his Neighbour* appeared in 1930.

In 1933, he began to work with refugee groups helping Jews to escape from Nazi Germany. The Nazis learned of his work and made an unsuccessful attempt on his life. Returning to England, he continued to work with refugees and was opposed to missionaries who were trying to take advantage of the plight of refugee children to convert them to Christianity.

His studies on the origins of Christian anti-Semitism, *The Conflict of the Church and the Synagogue* and *The Jews in the Medieval Community*, appeared during the following years.

Parkes played a central role in the organization of bodies such as the various Councils for Christians and Jews, and was a key figure at international conferences on the subject.

In 1970, he was awarded an honorary fellowship at the Hebrew University. *Geoffrey Wigoder*

Tennis star reaches top 40

By JACK LEON
Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Shlomo Glickstein last week realized his ambition to reach the top 40 in the Association of Tennis Professionals world singles rankings by the end of this summer.

The 23-year-old Israeli champion told *The Jerusalem Post* about this ambition last month, immediately after winning the Maccabiah and scoring victories in both his singles matches in the Davis Cup semi-final tie against Hungary — all within the space of one week.

Glickstein has achieved his target well ahead of schedule, by reaching the last 16 of the \$200,000 U.S. Clay Court Championships in Indianapolis, before top-seeded Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia ended his seven-match winning run.

The Ashkelon-born tennis star earned 12 ATP points in Indianapolis, to add to the 43 points he collected in South Orange a fortnight ago for winning the \$75,000 Volvo Grand Prix Tournament there. This was the biggest success of Glickstein's career in nearly three years of ATP competition, his one previous Grand Prix title having been at a meet of lesser standing — the \$50,000 Australian Hard Court Championships in Tasmania in January, 1980.

Glickstein has now earned a total of 365 ATP computer points in the past year from some 25 tournaments, pumps and vaporizers. The Jerusalem-based organization is also distributing the last of 100 medical-emergency radio transmitters to chronically ill and lonely, aged persons in Jerusalem who have no telephones. Slight pressure on a button promptly brings a Magen David Adom ambulance.

There, he became head of the 500-strong Jewish Students' Organization and attempted to study law, but that was only his cover for continuing his anti-Nazi activities. He joined Tuvia Friedman and other Nazi hunters in the local Hagana branch and was selected to approach the Russian ambassador in Vienna to ask for cooperation.

The local Hagana section had no official standing, yet it succeeded in bringing many prominent Austrian Nazis to justice. It was, however,

Gattmon was tortured by the Hungarians, who were trying to force him to betray his underground contacts. But Gattmon refused and was hanged from the gallows but cut down when he lost consciousness. The Hungarians, unable to make him talk, sentenced him to be hanged again, on November 29, 1944. The underground attacked the prison in order to have him freed, but the attempt failed.

On the day he was to be executed, the advancing Soviet troops ordered his release and Gattmon then joined the Russians in their hunt for escaping Nazis. Eventually, Gattmon reached Vienna.

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Orthodox Jews read Lamentations at the Western Wall on Saturday night marking Tisha B'Av, the ninth day of the Hebrew month of Av, traditional anniversary of the destruction of the First and Second Temples and other disasters in Jewish history. Places of entertainment were closed on Saturday evening, when the almost-25-hour fast of Tisha B'Av began for observant Jews. Tens of thousands of people go to the Western Wall, the only remnant of the Second Temple, on Tisha B'Av. (Yitzhak Elhanan — Scoop 80)

DEATH OF ALEXANDER GATTMON Underground fighter and industrialist

ALEXANDER GATTMON, a prominent Israeli industrialist who died last month, was a man of great spirit and mighty achievements. A man of action, he shunned limelight, but at his funeral his old colleagues and bosses — among them Shimon Peres, Yitzhak Shamir and Shmuel Toledano — recalled his dedication to Israel's progress and his almost legendary courage.

Gattmon was born Olek Guttman in Bedzin, Polish Silesia, in 1926. At the age of 14, he exchanged his watch for a gun to fight in the underground. After his first skirmishes with the Nazis he fled to Hungary. The Nazis and their Hungarian lackeys finally caught up with him and his organization and he was arrested, together with his best friend, Emil Brigg, who many years later won Israel's highest distinction, "Gibor Yisrael" (Hero of Israel).

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preoccupied with problems of smuggling arms to Israel, and Gattmon eventually switched his allegiance to the Irgun Zvai Leumi underground.

GATTMON arrived in Israel on board the ill-fated Altalena — the Irgun Zvai Leumi arms ship sunk by the Hagana — during the War of Independence and joined the Israeli Air Force, where he rose to the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

At one time, immediately after the end of the War of Independence, Gattmon joined the Avengers, a group of young Israelis — all survivors of Holocaust — who returned to Germany with the aim of killing major Nazi criminals. The Avengers, armed with folding rifles and telescopic sights planned to shoot at the Nazi prisoners while they were exercising within the walls of Spandau Prison, but they were restrained by Israeli intelligence.

Gattmon resigned a commission from the Air Force in 1960 in order to organize the illegal immigration from Morocco. His former boss, Shmuel Toledano, claims that it was due chiefly to Gattmon's extraor-

dinary courage and dedication that over 80,000 Moroccan Jews finally settled in Israel.

On his return to Israel, both Gattmon and Toledano were given special awards and praised by President Yitzhak Ben-Zvi.

GATTMON JOINED the ranks of Israeli industrialists in 1964, having already shown himself to be a good businessman and organizer. "There were few men like Alexander Gattmon," recalls Shmuel Toledano. "He was a born leader."

A few months ago, Gattmon, who had become the director-general of the Minmetal, Minsara, Moseroh and Tsamed companies, was asked to become Israel's ambassador to Mexico. He turned down this offer, explaining that he did not want to live far away from his children and did not want to take them out of the country.

Two months ago, Gattmon joined Avraham "Bunim" Shavit and six other Israeli industrialists who attended a conference in Moscow.

On his way back, he stopped in Vienna where he was joined by his wife, Carmel, and their two children, Dina and Shlomo. They set out for a vacation in Zurich, but on the train, Gattmon suffered a heart attack. His body was brought back to Israel for burial.

"Alexander Gattmon embodied everything that was good and beautiful in the history of the Jewish people of the past two generations," Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said at the funeral.

"He was an outstanding air force officer who lived by a principle that acts should speak and the mouth remain silent," added Shimon Peres. *ALEXANDER ZVIELI*

Ya'acov Shabtai, novelist and playwright

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Novelist and playwright Ya'acov Shabtai died suddenly of a heart attack last week at the age of 47.

Shabtai, one of the younger

generation of Israeli writers, was awarded several prizes for his novels and plays. Among them were the Bernstein Prize for his novel "Zichron Dvaram," and the Kinneret Prize for his play.

The government's policy guidelines

Here are the main policy guidelines

1. Recognition of the common fate and joint struggle for the existence of the Jewish people in the Land of Israel and in the Diaspora.

2. The right of the Jewish people to the Land of Israel, an eternal right that cannot be called into question, and which is intertwined with the right to security and peace.

3. The government will continue to place its aspirations for peace at the head of its concerns, and no effort will be spared in order to further peace. The peace treaty between Israel and Egypt is an historic turning point in Israel's status in the Middle East.

4. The government will continue to use all means to prevent war.

5. The government will diligently observe the Camp David agreements.

6. The government will work for the renewal of negotiations on the implementation of the agreement on full autonomy for the Arab residents of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip.

7. The autonomy agreed upon at Camp David means neither sovereignty nor self-determination. The autonomy agreements set down at Camp David are guarantees that under no conditions will a Palestinian state emerge in the territory of western "Eretz Yisrael."

8. At the end of the transition period, set down in the Camp David agreements, Israel will raise its claim, and act to realize its right of sovereignty over Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip.

9. Settlement in the Land of Israel is a right and an integral part of the nation's security. The government will act to strengthen, expand and develop settlement. The government will continue to honour the principle that Jewish settlement will not cause the eviction of any person from his land, village or city.

10. Equal rights for all residents will continue to exist in the Land of Israel, with no distinctions (on the basis) of religion, race, nationality, sex, or ethnic community.

11. Israel will not descend from the Golan Heights, nor will it remove any settlement established there. It is the government that will decide on the appropriate timing for the imposition of Israeli Law, jurisdiction, and administration on the Golan Heights.

12. The government will guarantee the rights and freedoms of the individual, the encouragement of free enterprise, equality of opportunity and advancement for the individual and his well-being.

13. The government will act to curb inflation and to ensure a reasonable standard of living for all residents of the state.

14. The government will work to eliminate poverty, and to extend assistance to large families, especially in housing and education.

15. The government will carry on with the project of neighbourhood renewal.

16. A constant effort will be made to increase capital investments from abroad, for the renewal of economic growth.

17. The government will continue to make a special effort to realize and encourage a programme of ren-

tal housing. The government will continue to work to eliminate the housing shortage.

18. The government will fight unemployment, strive to ensure jobs, and will promote creativity and the work ethic.

19. The government will encourage and provide incentives for increased productivity and output, in a joint effort to increase the national product and exports.

20. The government will work to improve labour relations and to reduce disputes affecting the economy, including legislation for governmental-judicial arbitration in vital services, which will be stipulated in the law itself.

21. The government will act to encourage and expand agriculture and settlement of all types.

22. The government will work to prevent emigration and to bring those citizens who have left, back to the homeland. The government will act to increase immigration from both the East and the West.

23. The government will work to eliminate crime and violence, and to instill respect for the law.

24. The ability of the people to make war on crime, and especially violent crime, in all its manifestations, will be strengthened.

25. The government will make an effort to establish a free educational system beginning at the age of three.

26. An extended school day will be introduced, especially in development towns and economically-disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

27. Education will be based on the eternal values of Israel's Torah, on the values of Judaism and Zionism, love of the people Israel, and love of the homeland.

28. The government will guarantee freedom of conscience and religion to every citizen and resident, will provide for community religious requirements using state means, and will guarantee religious education to all children whose parents so desire.

The status quo in matters of religion will be preserved.

The government, the local government authorities and other public authorities will increase their efforts in the area of the quality of life and the environment.

Local government will be reformed. The division of functions and responsibilities between the central and local governments will be examined. Financing arrangements will be fixed, and sources of financing will be examined to insure the proper functioning of local government.

The government will cultivate an attitude of respect towards the heritage of Israel, implant its values, strengthen the ties between the people in the Land of Israel and the Diaspora, and (strengthen) mutual responsibility and inter-generational ties.

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Support for Orthodox views in party agreement

Fifty of the 83 clauses in the coalition agreement deal with religious matters.

One general clause commits the government to ensuring that religious institutions are not discriminated against in allocation of funds for education and culture by the government, municipalities and the Jewish Agency. Another commits it to ensuring that laws pertaining to religious affairs are implemented, including municipal by-laws, in particular laws concerning observance of the Sabbath and Jewish holidays and *kashrut* (Jewish dietary laws).

Among the clauses dealing with minimizing work on the Sabbath and Jewish holidays are commitments to ensure that a person who does not want to work on the Sabbath will not be discriminated against when seeking employment; that public transport will cease over the Sabbath and on Jewish holidays; that new plants will be given aid to

ensure that they can function without working on the Sabbath; and that a ministerial committee will impose strict supervision on granting Sabbath work permits.

All new national projects and industries will be supervised by a special committee that will ensure that Sabbath work is minimized, both during its construction and in its functioning. Efforts will continue to cut down Sabbath work in the Electric Corporation, and in new electric plants automated equipment will be installed so that the Sabbath is not desecrated where work is necessary.

The transport minister will be entrusted with ensuring that the Sabbath is observed in sea ports. Special efforts will be made to enable Sabbath observance in Ben-Gurion Airport. All El Al flights to and from Israel will be grounded during the Sabbath and Jewish holidays.

The last clause in the agreement

reflects one of the Aguda's principal demands throughout the coalition negotiations. It says: "The prime minister believes that because the concept of *giyur* (conversion) is essentially halachic, the Law of Return should be amended and should include the words *giyur Ka'hachia* (conversion according to the halacha)."

A general clause commits the government to allot part of its research funds for research on technological means of eliminating work on the Sabbath.

Many of the clauses deal with allocation of funds to religious educational institutions. A general clause says that the government will provide a "suitable" development budget for *yeshivot*, and that it will continue to give priority to *yeshivot* in development towns, and settlements in the administered territories. Another clause commits the government to building flats for young couples in *yeshivot* in which

there are arrangements for young students to serve in the army.

Clause 47 says that questionnaires given to new immigrants will include mention of the independent religious schools affiliated with the Aguda (in addition to government religious schools). Clause 41 says that efforts will be made to implement the law according to which parents who send their children to missionary schools are transgressing the compulsory education law.

In new neighbourhoods being built in Jerusalem and the rest of the country, special provisions will be made for building flats, both for sale and for rent, for religious families, in particular for young married couples.

Clause 42 says that the *status quo* in religious affairs, law and administrative regulations will be maintained.

Among the clauses dealing with non-religious matters are:

- The government will examine

the institution of a 5-day work week.

- a national pension law will be passed.
- a minimum wage law will be passed.

- tax reductions for industrial workers will be instituted.
- the government will encourage building for rent.
- free elementary education will be ensured.
- proceedings to pass a national health bill will be continued.

- during the next year the following laws will be tabled: compulsory arbitration in essential services; Tenants Protection Law will be amended to ensure fair treatment to tenants; the local authorities taxation system will be reformed.

- the prime minister soon will raise in the Knesset the issue of opening of a second television channel.

- the neighbourhood rehabilitation project will continue.

What the partners decided

FOLLOWING are excerpts from the text of the coalition agreement of the Tenth Knesset. The agreement was signed by the Likud, the National Religious Party, Agudat Yisrael and Tami on Tuesday night of last week.

1. All clauses of the coalition agreement of the Ninth Knesset are effective and in force, and to be considered rewritten into this agreement...

2. The government will ensure that various sectors of the population, including Orthodox Jews, will not be discriminated against in the allocation of government, municipal or Jewish Agency funds...

3. The government will strictly enforce the laws applying to religious matters, including municipal by-laws and will work towards full enforcement of the laws applying to Sabbath observance, *kashrut* and the sale of pork.

4. Proposals for election reforms will be presented only with the prior agreement of all the coalition partners...

5. The government will move to minimize work on Shabbat. This goal will be achieved through the following means:

6. There shall be no discrimination in hiring, promoting or retaining an employee who does not wish to work on Shabbat...

7. Public transportation shall cease operating before the start of Shabbat and Jewish holidays, and shall not resume operating until Shabbat or the holiday has ended, in accordance with the *status quo* on this matter...

8. New plants, or existing plants which expand, will receive aid and assistance to plan for the elimination of work on Shabbat...

9. All work permits granted for work on Shabbat, especially one-time permits, will be reported within a month of their issuance to an advisory board working with a ministerial committee on work permits. The report will include the reasons for granting the work permit. Every member of the advisory board, which will include a representative of the Institute for Science and Halacha, or Tzomet, is entitled to appeal the granting of the permit or its conditions...

10. The minister of labour will sign Shabbat work permits after the advisory board has considered the case and given an opinion...

11. A representative of the Institute for Science and Halacha, or Tzomet, plus an additional representative approved by Agudat Yisrael, will be permanent members of the ministerial committee on Shabbat work permits.

12. The Work and Rest Hours Law will be amended as follows: In Clause 15 (Bet), after the phrase which reads "the work permit shall not be given for a period covering more than two years," there will be inserted "whether all at once, whether through an accumulation of years, months, days, weeks or other measures of time, whether continuously or intermittently," or other words with the same meaning.

13. The fine for violating the Work and Rest Hours Law will be increased significantly.

14. Efforts will continue to reduce or eliminate work on Shabbat in the Electric Corporation. In new power plants, automated equipment will be installed wherever possible so that electricity can be generated without desecrating the Shabbat.

15. Sabbath observance will be enforced at the ports of Haifa, Ashdod and Eilat. Efforts will be made to achieve complete Sabbath observance at Ben-Gurion Airport.

16. It will be insured that El Al will not operate on Shabbat and Jewish holidays, either in Israel or abroad. El Al planes will not take off, fly or land on Shabbat or Jewish holidays. El Al Airlines must arrange its flight schedules in accordance with this rule. Sabbath observance must also be enforced in all government companies, on Israel Railways, in oil explorations and in any special events these companies organize both in Israel and abroad.

17. Representatives of the state on official business both in Israel and abroad will strictly observe Shabbat while carrying out their duties. Official visits will be arranged in a fashion so as not to desecrate the Sabbath or Jewish holidays. Observance of Shabbat, Jewish holidays and *kashrut* will continue to be enforced in all state institutions in Israel and abroad,

and in all institutions which receive funds or support from the state, as is the custom.

20. The government will budget funds to finance research on ways to minimize or eliminate working on Shabbat.

21. The government undertakes to ensure the passage of the proposed law to prevent deception in *kashrut*, in the form already agreed upon, during the Knesset's winter session.

22. A new pay scale will be devised for local rabbis, including neighbourhood rabbis and rabbis in settlements...

23. The government will establish a planning and budget committee for *yeshivot* and institutes for advanced Tora studies to centralize the dispensing of government aid to *yeshivot* heder, to *yeshivot* for advanced studies and to other institutions which are willing to accept the committee's financial and organizational supervision, as well as that of the State Comptroller...

24. The government will establish the abovementioned planning and budget committee in the manner customary for other institutions of higher learning...

25. Housing will be built for young married couples in which the husbands are students at *yeshivot heder* (where students in addition to religious studies also serve in the army.)

26. An athlete who observes Shabbat will be eligible to join an official athletic delegation and will be exempted from participation in competitions held on Shabbat. Efforts will be made to facilitate the participation of religiously observant athletes in competitions in Israel and abroad which are not held on Shabbat or a Jewish holiday...

27. The government will ensure that there is no second shift in the schools, and will budget a sufficient amount to replace inadequate educational facilities.

28. The government will diligently work towards expanding and deepening the teaching of Jewish and Zionist values in state schools and state religious schools...

29. The government will budget a suitable amount for the develop-

Dry Bones



ment of *yeshivot*...

40. A coalition committee will be formed which will examine the question of representation on religious councils...

41. Since the schools run by missionary institutions are not recognized for purposes of the requirements of the Compulsory Education Law, and the parents of students in those schools are not fulfilling their obligations under that law, the enforcement of that law will be carried out in theory and in practice...

42. The status of a *yeshiva* student will be considered equal to that of a student at any other institution of higher learning in cases concerning widow's/widower's benefits and compensation for work-related accidents...

43. The law forbidding excavations at gravesites will be strictly enforced...

44. Foreign students in *yeshivot* will receive support equal to that of students at universities.

45. Information presented to new immigrants on their arrival in Israel

will note, in the education section, the availability of schools of the independent education system... (in addition to state and state religious schools).

46. A special annual budget of \$700m. will be provided for various kinds of *yeshivot* (general, secondary, *heder*, vocational, academies for girls), and Tora educational projects...

47. Continuing to foster the growth of new settlement throughout the country by provision of means of production, water and housing, irrespective of movement affiliation...

48. The prime minister will ensure the necessary coordination among government ministries in order to enforce the "Kanoitz" law against air pollution...

49. The Aguda school network at all levels will receive a share of the development budget equal to its weight in the entire school system. In addition, a coalition committee will examine the lag in construction for Aguda schools and will propose ways to close the gap by bringing

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from preceding page.)
them up to the standards of the state school system...

59. In every neighbourhood where there are religious residents, Aguda-affiliated schools and kindergartens will be established on the basis of need...

61. The government will take steps to introduce a five-day work week throughout the economy. Realization of this aim will be gradual and measures will be adopted to maintain labour productivity.

62. A state pension law will be passed ensuring all citizens of a decent standard of living in old age, while preserving workers' existing rights.

63. Legislation assuring a minimum wage will be completed, providing that the minimum wage will be 50 per cent of the average wage in the economy...

64. Tax reductions for industrial workers will be instituted.

65. A housing law will be enacted defining the rights of various sectors

What the partners decided

of the population to housing with the aim of ensuring decent housing for all in accordance with family size and means.

66. The government will encourage rental housing...

68. Project Renewal for housing and neighbourhood improvement will be expanded, encouraging the participation of religious institutions where necessary...

69. The government will encourage development areas by giving them preference in the provision of public services and in locating new industry, and by providing tax reductions and housing to encourage people to move there.

70. In the framework of the Housing Ministry's building for young couples, special housing projects for religious young couples will be built each year...

71. The Ministry of Housing will make possible the establishment of religious neighbourhoods, within the framework of new quarters in Jerusalem and other parts of the

country...

72. The government will work for the establishment of a free education system from the age of three years...

73. The government will continue proceedings leading to the passage of a national health bill...

77. The following laws will be passed by the Knesset within one year: — Compulsory arbitration in essential services;

— Amendments to the Protected Tenants Law (Apartments and Businesses), in cases where it causes difficulty;

— Reform aimed at easing the direct and indirect tax burden and the removal of unnecessary taxes, including business taxes levied by local authorities.

78. The sale of shares in government companies will be continued.

79. Efforts will be made to eliminate duplication in government administration.

80. The justice minister will ex-

amine the existing laws to determine whether the legal status of a wife is undermined by common law wives, and if the common law wife is given the rights of a married woman.

81. The government will work for the establishment of free basic education for adults, and will appropriate means to carry out this goal. An inter-ministerial committee will be established to examine the way adult education teachers are employed.

82. The prime minister will bring before the government, at one of its meetings in the near future, a proposal for the establishment of a second television channel.

83. The prime minister believes that since the notion of conversion is in essence halachic, there is a need to amend the Law of Return and to include in it the words "conversion according to Halacha" (*giyur Ka'hachia*). In order to do this, the prime minister will make every possible effort to assemble a Knesset majority for the aforementioned amendment.

Likud gain

TEL AVIV. — In the first public opinion poll on the political parties' standing since the Knesset elections, the Likud got one more mandate and Labour lost three in comparison with the results in June. Both the National Religious Party and the ultra-nationalist Tehiya got two more seats. This emerged from *The Jerusalem Post* poll conducted by the Modi'in Ezrahi applied research centre among a representative sample of 1,230 adults towards the end of July.

Respondents were asked, "How would you vote if elections were held today?"

The breakdown was:

	JULY POLL	JUNE 30 ELECTIONS
Likud	49	48
Labour	44	47
NRP	8	6
Aguda bloc	5	4
Tehiya	5	3
Tami	2	3
Telam	2	2
Shinui	2	2
CRM	1	1
Others (Including Rakah)	3	4

Memo: Francois Mitterrand

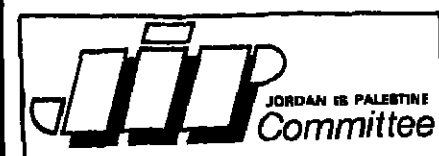
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Holocaust Survivors Donate 24th MDA Ambulance

NEW YORK, N.Y. — Dr. and Mrs. Nathan Celnik of New York recently presented their 23rd and 24th fully equipped ambulances to Magen David Adom (MDA), Israel's Red Cross Society. This dual ambulance presentation has become an annual event over the last twelve years.

At the ambulance dedication, Brigadier General (Res.) Amizur Kfir, Director General of MDA, presented the couple with a special scroll marking MDA's 50th Jubilee and recognizing the magnificent Celnik tradition of humanitarianism. Gen. Kfir noted that their survival of the Nazi Holocaust and their experiences as partisans in the underground, had imbued both Dr. and Mrs. Celnik with an abiding love of life and a deep commitment to the welfare and development of the land of Israel. "These annual ambulance

contributions are a concrete affirmation of their love for Israel and their fellow man," said Gen. Kfir. "The Celniks have given countless Israelis whose lives were in jeopardy, a second chance to enjoy many more years which might have been denied to them without these vehicles of mercy bearing the Celnik name."

Gen. Kfir went on to tell the assembled friends about the scholarship established by Dr. and Mrs. Celnik which underwrites the cost of training ten qualified Israelis each year in the MDA Paramedic program. This important new program, which graduated its first class in 1980, trains men and women to become skilled MDA Paramedics, equipped to administer on-site emergency medical treatment and to continue that treatment, transmitting vital medical information to a physician in a receiving hospital, while still in the ambulance.

In citing the Celniks for their outstanding support of MDA, which he said was "without peer", Gen. Kfir called them both "living examples of Man's Humanity to Man".



Brig. Gen. (Res.) Amizur Kfir, Director General MDA (1), presents Pikuach Nefesh Award to Dr. Nathan and Mrs. Ursula Celnik at dedication of their 23rd and 24th ambulances for MDA in Israel. Looking on with pride are Mrs. Rebecca Katz, President, Long Beach Chapter, American Red Magen David for Israel (ARMDI) and Benjamin Saxe, ARMDI Executive Vice President. (Communicated)

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A three-vote majority

By DAVID LANDAU
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Menachem Begin's second Likud-led administration won the Knesset's confidence after a marathon debate last week by a vote of 61 to 58.

The opposition vote was reduced by one through the absence of Haim Bar-Lev (Alignment-Labour) who is hospitalized following a riding accident.

The NRP super-dove Avraham Melamed, who had been threatening to abstain in the vote because he feared the excessive influence which Ariel Sharon might wield as defence minister, caved in under party pressure when the NRP ministers said they would not assume their portfolios if Melamed abstained.

The NRP forced Melamed to make a public statement that he would vote for the government despite his personal objections to Sharon. Melamed said he changed his mind because he did not want to cause an internal crisis in the NRP.

The prime minister's closing speech — like his opening address 10 hours earlier — was in the main a hectoring party-political harangue, which drew volleys of interjections from the Labour benches and counter-cries from the Likud.

Begin dredged up historical controversies from the First Aliya through Nili and the Altalena.

He also took issue with Labour

chairman Shimon Peres' claim during the debate that the Alignment faction represents the largest number of votes now that Shulamit Aloni (Citizens Rights Movement) has joined it. "You have indeed joined Labour, Mrs. Aloni, and kol hakavod" (congratulations), Begin said. "But did you ask your voters?"

As the premier spoke, law professor Amnon Rubinstein (Shinui) shouted from his seat, "A man who will swear loyalty as a minister tonight will come up for trial tomorrow morning. It is unprecedented and unparalleled on earth." He was referring to Labour and Social Welfare and Absorption Minister Aharon Abuhatzela (Tami) who faces embezzlement and fraud charges in Tel Aviv District Court.

Begin dismissed the interruption with a contemptuous wave of the hand.

After the vote, all the ministers



NRP's super-dove Melamed

who, save for Education Minister Ze'evulun Hammer (NRP), were decked out in suits and white shirts, filed to the rostrum to take the oath of office. Moshe Dayan MK (Telam) was seen slipping out of the plenary, before the ceremony.

The last speaker before Begin was Aguda's new faction chief, Avraham Shapiro, who is to be the coalition chairman. In all my 25 years as an industrialist I have not heard so much hatred, so many personal insults, so much verbal cannibalism as in this one day in the Knesset," the neophyte legislator said.

In turn captivating, amusing and intriguing the house, Rabbi Shapiro repeatedly dwelt on his warm friendship towards the Labour Party. "I'm sure that had I come to my friend Shimon (Peres) with the coalition demands, he would have accepted them in five minutes flat..."

He urged Labour to "buy the package now — for four years time." He urged the opposition party not to be despondent. "It's not pleasant to be there in the opposition, but you'll be back quicker than you think."

Shapiro's remarks set the Knesset abuzz with speculation. Some felt that being, as he said of himself "not a political man," he had allowed his personal preference for Labour to show through. Others, however, suggest that the astute industrialist (he is the owner of Carmel Carpets)



Prime Minister Menachem Begin during the Knesset debate, flanked by Deputy Prime Minister Simcha Ehrlich on his right and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir. (Rahamim Israel)

was signalling to Begin that Aguda was not to be taken for granted despite the coalition gains.

Premier Begin was apparently of the latter school. He congratulated Shapiro, saying, "He is not a political man, but he proved to have a political sense that is hard to beat."

Agudat Yisrael will reportedly get assistant director-general positions

in six ministries, including Education, Religious Affairs, and Labour and Social Affairs. In addition, the coalition executive will be chaired for the first year by Aguda MK Avraham Shapira. Shalom Lornitz will continue to chair the Knesset Finance Committee, as will Menahem Porush the Knesset Labour and Social Affairs Committee.

Sharp exchanges after Begin urges reconciliation

By MOSHE KOHN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Prime Minister Menachem Begin and opposition leader Shimon Peres and their supporters engaged in acrimonious exchanges as the premier presented his new government for the approval of the Tenth Knesset.

Begin read his entire 38-minute speech, looking up from the prepared text only to make several sarcastic asides and to participate in across-the-floor exchanges precipitated by his remarks.

He spoke after the house had elected two temporary deputy Knesset speakers: Moshe Shahal (Alignment-Labour) and Meir Cohen (Likud-Herut). The election of Speaker Menahem Savidor's permanent deputies awaits the results of the inter-factional wheeling and dealing, which is not yet over.

President Yitzhak Navon was present for the occasion of the presentation of the new government.

Describing this as the nation's "second vote of confidence in four years," Mr. Begin said, turning to the Alignment seats: "Through eight Knessets you were in the habit of praising the nation's wisdom in knowing for whom to vote. When I asked you to repeat this assessment four years ago, you raged: 'The nation made a mistake, which won't be repeated.' What do you say now? Has this 'wise' nation made the same mistake a second time? And what will you say the third time it happens?"

Turning to political issues, Begin spoke of the "inherent" and "natural" right of a nation to defend itself against aggression, as defined in the UN Charter and the Locarno

Pact. It is this right that Israel has exercised, he said, in bombing the Iraqi reactor and in various military operations in Lebanon.

He warned that anyone trying to interfere with Israel Air Force photo-reconnaissance flights over Lebanon "will bear the consequences." Such flights are "expressly excluded from the concept of hostile acts" referred to in the cease-fire agreement negotiated with U.S. peace-maker Philip Habib.

Ties with Soviets

Prime Minister Menachem Begin told the Knesset that Israel is ready to resume normal relations with the Soviet Union.

However, Moscow will have to take the initiative to resume relations that it severed in 1967.

If the Soviets choose to do so, "we shall first demand the release of all the Prisoners of Zion and the freedom of return to the Jewish people's historic homeland for all Jews wishing to do so."

Furthermore, Begin said, "the unilateral breaches of the peace from beyond the Lebanese border cannot continue."

He said that not Israel but Egypt suspended the Palestinian autonomy talks — "in our estimation, for no good reason."

U.S.-Israel relations, he said, have seen "a number of political changes for the better" — such as President Ronald Reagan's statement that Jewish settlement in Erez Yisrael is not illegal — "and a number of negative practical developments," such as the suspen-

sion of the delivery of the F-16 aircraft and the decision to supply F-15 advanced gear and AWACS to Saudi Arabia.

Concerning what he sees as changes for the better, the premier also noted the "great importance" of Reagan's repeated statement that Israel is a friend and ally of the U.S. and that Israel is playing an important role in stemming Soviet expansion in this region.

As for a written treaty between the U.S. and Israel, the premier said: "Small states like us cannot risk initiatives in this direction, for they cannot afford refusal. It would be more proper for the big power to take the initiative."

Israel does not wish foreign soldiers fighting for her. However, "a joint stand for a common cause — joining forces in defence of freedom and democracy — is another matter altogether. Such a treaty and such a joint stand are needed today perhaps more than ever before, at a time when aggressive totalitarianism is on the march and liberty is retreating."

Returning to domestic matters, Begin said that "the Herzlian principle that we are one nation was undermined in the last elections," and he called on everybody to forgive and forget, now that the election campaign was over. He pointedly reminded the Alignment of statements some of its members made during the election campaign and in election post mortems — statements which, taken out of context, are offensive to Jews from the Islamic lands. Alignment MKs shouted that it was Begin who was taking the statements out of context.

"You're splitting the nation in

two!" Jacques Amir (Alignment-Labour) shouted in the verbal brawl that followed. His comrade, Rabbi Menahem Hacohen, called out impassioned: "You preach 'forgive and forget' and you incite to hatred!"

Begin called for reconciliation, and then read off the list of proposed cabinet members.

Alignment leader Shimon Peres, leading off the debate, noted that his party had the largest increase of any party in the votes received in the last election over the 1977 totals — an increase of 60 per cent, from 430,000 to 708,000. (The calculation of the percentage was a last-minute operation, in which he had been assisted, while Begin was speaking, by Alignment-Mapam colleague Yair Tzaban, sitting behind him, who happened to have a pocket calculator.)

Peres said this is "the first time in the history of the State of Israel that a prime minister mounted the podium to present a government and engaged in incitement instead."

"Why?" Peres asked, his voice rising, "do you (Begin) take isolated sentences and phrases instead of presenting a unifying, coalescing statement?" If he wished, he said, he could do the same with statements Begin had made at various times and places.

Peres went on to read from his prepared text, listing what he said were the many achievements of the public he represents.

"This public is spread out all over the map of this country, and it has a maximal part in the creation of this map. It includes Jews from all countries and liturgies, founders and builders of the development towns, tillers of the soil, members of



Peres...Labour's achievement

the Histadrut, intellectuals, self-employed and salaried workers, religious and secular Jews, Arabs and Druse. It is a movement that has a long history and a passionate faith, a history of restoration and construction. It is the movement that decided to establish a Jewish state in part of Eretz Yisrael."

As he went on to list what he said were the Zionist Labour movement's achievements, sometimes in general and sometimes in specific terms, he was interrupted several times by members of different coalition parties who called out: "What about the others?" (Likud's Akiva Nof) "What about us?" (Agudat Yisrael's Rabbi Menahem Porush)

Peres: "Picture Israel without the kibbutzim we built, without the moshavim, without the development towns." Ehud Olmert (Likud-La'am): "But none of the development towns support you, Mr. Peres."

In conclusion, Peres said that "when this coalition festival is over, we shall come to the nation with our alternative, an alternative of truth, of realism, hope and responsibility."

OPINION

ONE OF the early friends of Zionism in the West was C.P. Scott, an editor of the Manchester Guardian. He coined a phrase which ought to be prominently displayed in every newspaper office and parliamentary chamber: "Facts are sacred. Opinions are free."

There is one false opinion masquerading as a "fact" which is heard too often in the Israeli political dialogue. It is asserted that the normal tradition of democracies is to suspend criticism of military operations or other governmental policies in order to avoid nourishing criticism abroad. Some Likud zealots go on to suggest that there is something eccentric or "close to treachery" in the reluctance of Israeli Opposition leaders to follow this tradition.

There is not even a microscopic particle of truth in this bizarre myth. The "tradition" of silence is not followed because it does not exist.

Many recent precedents should have warned Mr. Begin that military actions, undertaken without inter-party agreement, which fail to achieve any affirmative result always incur vehement domestic criticism. The Opposition represents the great mass of the "unconsulted." In previous epochs, up to the 18th century, even the fiercest wars affected a surprisingly small fraction of the peoples involved. Today, since war is everybody's tragedy, peace has become everybody's business. Public opinion is no longer ready to leave strategy and diplomacy to groups of specialized mandarins moving loftily in a reserved domain. People in democracies have a strange curiosity to know why they are getting killed, or why others are killed in their name.

The most modern era in diplomacy began in the early Sixties with the Bay of Pigs adventure, which taught how military decisions undertaken without prior consensus usually bring those who make them into failure and discredit. The American war in Vietnam and Cambodia forced successive administrations to hold a fierce dialogue simultaneously with their foreign critics and their domestic constituency. It was natural for those in power to react impatiently to criticism. In his autobiography, Henry Kissinger describes as "hysteria" the view of those who doubted whether continuing the war beyond 1972 would have a better result than abandoning it at once. In the short term, the critics seemed to be wrong. The "Christmas bombings" of 1972 brought North Vietnam to the negotiating table. But, as a contemporary writer was to point out "the horror of that terrible finale had cast a pall over the final settlement." Soon, the whole of Indochina was under Communist control, and the sacrifices of those who tried to avoid that result were seen as a tragic waste.

While the critics of the Indochina war were accused of being wrong, no American in his senses sought to deny the legitimacy of their dissent or made asinine appeals for silence in order to give a mendacious impression of unanimity. Governments understand that if they authorize dangerous enterprises, they will have to fight hard on their domestic front and accept the limitations which the domestic context imposes on their diplomacy and strategy. The fact that American opinion had shown freedom of dissent did not save — or doom — Vietnam, but it may have helped to

The duty to oppose

Abba Eban argues the importance of a vigorous Opposition, particularly in 'times of crisis.' Replying to some sources in the Likud who have attacked the Opposition for its questioning in public of the government's policy in Lebanon, Eban says that 'to avoid wrong decisions by criticism at home is more important than to avoid being quoted abroad.'



A casualty of the terrorist shelling in Kiryat Shmona is taken for treatment. Northern Galilee has "suffered a traumatic convulsion" since the action of July 12, says Abba Eban. (IPPA)

save America as a free society with an unexhausted international role.

THOSE in the Likud who pretend to believe that dissent in moments of crisis is unprecedented in parliamentary history should take a long look at parliamentary reports in Britain at the time of the abortive Suez expedition in 1956, or, more impressively, at the vote of "no confidence" proposed in the British House of Commons after the failures at Tobruk and Singapore. In fact, I defy any reader or student to find a single case in which a democratic people has agreed to suppress its criticism of a national policy out of deference to what foreigners might say or think. The decision has always been dictated by a sense of priority. To avoid wrong decisions by criticism at home is more important than to avoid being quoted abroad.

The subject of silencing dissent is usually mentioned in reaction to "times of crisis." The truth is that crisis is the most excellent reason for an Opposition to be seen and heard. It is in moments of turmoil that the Opposition represents the legitimacy of the public interest more acutely than does the government. In democratic theory, a people has a right not only to comment on innovations of policy after they have appeared, but also to exercise a prerogative of warning and prevention. Governments sometimes usurp this right by secrecy, as in the Bay of Pigs, or by concealment of purpose, as in the bombing of Cambodia, or by the evasion of constitutional process, as with Eden in the Suez crisis, or by the obdurate evasion of inter-party consultation, as by Mr. Begin in all defence decisions since April. Without giving way to superstition, the student of contemporary history might note that in every case where a government has claimed a monopoly of counsel and decision in a military operation, the operation has failed in its objective and the deciding government has been

condemned to solitude of guilt.

The Israeli Labour Movement, which has sharper constitutional intuitions than Mr. Begin never embarked on a potentially dangerous or divisive enterprise without consulting the Opposition and thereby giving an opportunity for warning or prevention.

In all the international cases that I have cited, the critics of governmental decisions were vindicated fairly soon after the event. They thus illustrate the special value of the Opposition in a parliamentary system. Most constitutional scholars support the view expressed by Ivor Jennings (*Cabinet Government*, Cambridge 1959, p. 15) that in a parliamentary system "the Opposition is almost as important as the Government... If there be no Opposition, there is no democracy."

IT IS sometimes forgotten that parliamentary democracy is the first and only system that makes criticism of the government no less a part of the system than the government itself. It is therefore an error for well-meaning Israelis and friends of Israel abroad to urge us to corrupt the inner balance of the system by suspending the Opposition's role in favour of such fantasies as "national unity governments." It is in moments of crisis, more than in other times, that a nation should decline to give up the restraints whereby it protects itself against the tyranny of uninhibited executive power.

With the present trend towards centralized authority, even in democracies, nothing could be more disruptive of the constitutional balance than the enlargement of government and the abolition of the Opposition. This would be especially serious in a country such as ours where the cabinet has already surrendered its restraining function by capitulating uncritically to all the prime minister's impulses. (Ministers support Mr. Begin's ideas in the cabinet room, and ex-

press their derision and concern in the Knesset cafeteria.) A strong, candid Opposition is little short of a life-and-death necessity when a prime minister passes from impulse to execution without an intervening stage of analysis. A Likud government without a powerful Opposition is like a vehicle without brakes — a danger to its own passengers and to all who cross its path.

For what distinguishes the Likud government in Israel from other parliamentary governments across the world is its habit of playing chess one move at a time. There seems to be no attempt to weigh action and consequence one stage ahead.

THE RECORD of the past three months in the government's treatment of the Syrian-Lebanese sector is a case history which teachers of politics should take as the prime example of a decision-making process at its worst. Between the shooting down of the Syrian helicopters and the present day, we arrive at the following balance: the Syrian missiles are still in place despite the strident threats to remove them.

Israel's credibility has been eroded by the gap between the threat and the reality. President Assad seems calm and relaxed, as he strengthens his missile system after every Begin speech. The ludicrous episode of the April 30 attack on the missiles, called off for reasons of weather, has compounded the credibility gap. Nobody in Israel or elsewhere has a clear idea about the real dimensions of the missile threat. Is it an existential problem as it was in April, or merely a marginal issue, as Mr. Begin seems to regard it today? Were the Christians in Northern Lebanon potential victims of a "holocaust" like what occurred in Europe in the Forties? If so, why do we hear nothing about their "plight" today?

As a result of the government's lunge into new action in mid-July, the PLO forces in Lebanon are now free to regroup and rearm in the shelter of a cease-fire. The PLO has

celebrated a rise in its diplomatic status through becoming a partner in a negotiation with the Government of Israel through the United States. Since the actions of July 12 six Israelis have lost their lives in the North, while the region has suffered a traumatic convulsion. A precedent has been set in the U.S. for the suspension of crucial arms deliveries as a method of influencing Israeli policy. For the first time in Israel's history, all the elements in American policy-making — administration, Congress, press and public opinion — express themselves in concerted distrust of Israeli attitudes. In Egyptian-Israeli relations, preparations for evacuating the rest of Sinai move forward, but there is no corresponding movement closer to a system of human, economic and political co-operation. In short, everything in the regional and international domain has got worse, nothing has become better, and the change is inexorably related to governmental initiatives taken in conditions in which a controlled pursuit of previous policies would have avoided a political debacle.

Some Likud supporters who quaintly call themselves "Liberals" have suggested that the best way of dealing with this failure is to pretend that it does not exist, and to legislate an anti-treason bill to be applied to anyone who hints at the imperial nudity. The truth is that it would be treachery to shelter the government from criticism under the specious excuse of prejudice against what is euphemistically called the government's "information campaign." There is nothing at all in the argument that dissent at home encourages criticism abroad. The shock reaction at the pictures of children being dug out of the debris, blinded or killed, in Beirut would not have shocked anyone less if, in addition to that spectacle, the entire Israeli nation had evinced a callous and uniform contempt for what others felt and thought.

Moreover, the Likud view of world opinion is grossly incoherent. When military action is planned, "world opinion" is described as so trivial a factor that it may never be invoked against the action itself. When it comes to the Opposition role of criticism, "world opinion" is promoted from the stature of a negligible dwarf to that of an imposing giant. World opinion does not restrain the government from reckless action, but it must restrain the Opposition from moderate criticism!

If the Labour Movement and the entire press had pretended to be in favour of policies that they reject, foreign criticism would be just as vehement as it has been, without the saving grace of Israel's democratic nature as the lever for the reconstruction of our international support.

ALL THIS leads to a clear conclusion about the prospect of a new government under Likud leadership. The best thing is that such a government should not exist at all. The second best alternative if a Likud government is inevitable for "religious" reasons, is for that government to exist side by side with a strong and vocal Opposition, seeking to curtail its life.

The worst eventually is for a Likud government with the Opposition virtually eliminated, either by accepting the counsels of intimidated silence, or through being swallowed up into the governmental jaws under a false mystique of unanimity.

The rocky road that led to a coalition

Forming a coalition — never an easy task — was harder than usual for Prime Minister Menachem Begin because he had publicly pledged not to ask President Yitzhak Navon for an extension of the 21-day period of time allowed him to put together a government.

One of the spotters thrown into the works was Aharon Abuhatzira's insistence on retaining his post as Minister of Religious Affairs. This demand upset the National Religious Party — for two reasons. First, because the NRP since the establishment of the state has held that ministry, and considers it to be its "domain." Secondly, Abuhatzira, now head of Tami Party, bolted the NRP just before the elections to set up his new list.

A settlement of this problem finally emerged after Abuhatzira agreed to accept the Labour/Social Affairs and Immigrant Absorption portfolios instead but on condition that the NRP's Yosef Burg, who became Religious Affairs Minister, does not summarily fire any of Abuhatzira's appointees at the ministry.

Meanwhile cordial relations were restored in Herut Party ranks when David Levy — at the last minute — ended his one-day rebellion and accepted Prime Minister Menachem Begin's invitation to join the cabinet.

Levy, who was minister of Housing and Immigrant Absorption in the last government, was vexed when Begin announced that he had chosen Aharon Abuhatzira of Tami Party for the Absorption portfolio.

To assuage Levy, he was invited not only to retain his House Ministry post but also to become a deputy prime minister with overall responsibility for social affairs, including Project Renewal.

Begin's act of relieving Levy of the Absorption ministry angered the youth wing of their Herut party (the main constituent in the Likud). They said Levy is the man to be credited with the party's remarkable comeback in recent

months and that he is the one who brought Herut much of the North African vote.

The pro-Levy groundswell even reached the point where MK Ronni Milo of Herut called on the prime minister to demand early elections if he cannot find a way to convince Tami not to demand the Absorption portfolio. "We would be undermining ourselves by creating a government in which David Levy is not a prominent member," Milo declared.

Herut party leaders said Levy was not fighting a personal battle but was bearing the banner of party interests, which Begin often ignored. Although Levy was "not really enamoured" of the Absorption Ministry, he knows well that controlling a ministry provides the opportunities to hand out jobs to the party faithful.

Another obstacle finally overcome was the delay by Agudat Yisrael in accepting Begin's personal undertaking concerning the so-called "Who is a Jew?" amendment to the Law of Return. Begin promised to do all he could to legislate an amendment that would satisfy Agudat Yisrael.

Aguda had demanded all along that the law be changed to require all proselytes to undergo Orthodox conversion in order to qualify for Jewish status. The secular parties in the past have succeeded in blocking such an amendment. The Aguda's spiritual mentors — the Council of Torah Sages — at times insisted that the demand for amending the law be made an ultimatum for the Aguda joining the coalition.

In the end, however, the Sages ruled that Aguda may join the government on the basis of Begin's compromise, which gives him "a reasonable period of time" to seek a Knesset majority for legislation stating that only Halachic (Jewish Orthodox) conversions would be recognized.

This cleared the way for signing of the coalition agreement by Agudat Yisrael.

Levy, Sharon squared off for Herut succession battle

TEL AVIV. — The negotiations for forming the coalition have helped clear the fog in the behind-the-scenes war of succession in Herut between Defence Minister Ariel Sharon and deputy prime minister-designate, Housing Minister David Levy.

During the past few years both men have acted as rivals in internal Herut forums, and now, according to Herut Party circles, the battle lines have finally been drawn. Both Sharon and Levy could now claim to hold the No. 2 position in the party. Both are now widely regarded as contenders for the position of heir to Menachem Begin.

There is no love lost between the two men. It was Sharon who arranged the deal whereby Aharon Abuhatzira was awarded Levy's Absorption portfolio. It was this arrangement which triggered the Levy decision to stay out of the cabinet in protest. His quick return to the government — with his political standing greatly enhanced by the ti-

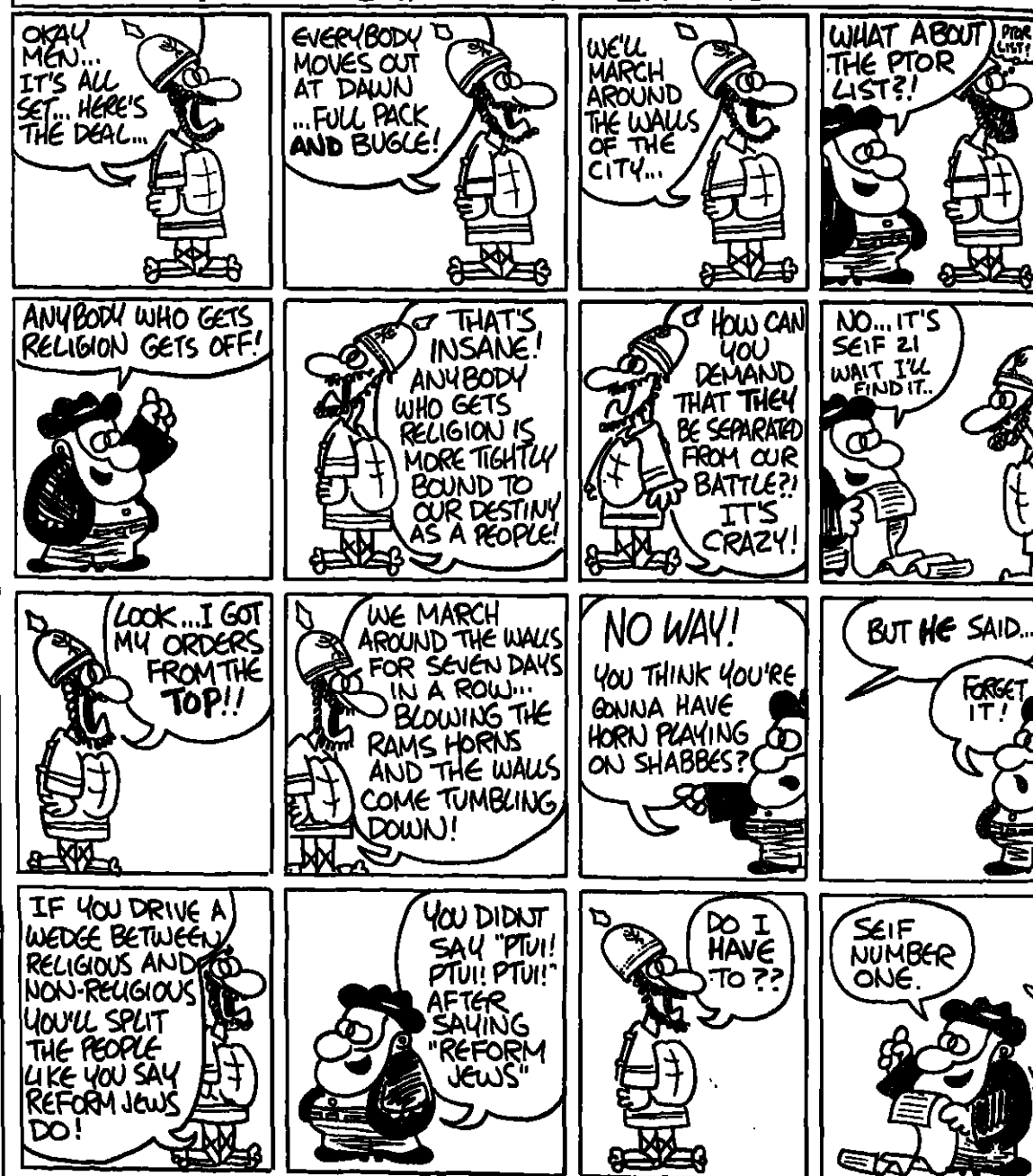
NEWS ANALYSIS/Sarah Honig

tle of deputy premier — is seen by Herut sources as a victory. Levy avoided a politically suicidal open conflict with Begin and won the promotion he had sought all along.

For his part, Sharon can claim that he holds the second most important job in the Israeli political hierarchy. He too had astutely managed to avoid an open rift with Begin over a year ago after former defence minister Ezer Weizman's resignation. Sharon was then disappointed that he did not get the portfolio for which he considered himself better qualified than Begin. His fervent support of settlement had earned him a considerable popularity in Herut, although he only joined that party after the 1977 elections. In the first round of the internal elections in Herut last spring, he came out ahead of Levy, and second only to Begin in popularity.

The Weekend Dry Bones

JOSHUA ON THE NIGHT BEFORE THE BATTLE OF JERICHO



GLOSSARY: Ptor — exemption; Self — section

Minister's second trial opens in Tel Aviv

By JEFFREY HELLER

TEL AVIV. — Aharon Abuhatzira Thursday chose to get settled in his new ministerial duties, rather than attend the opening session of his second trial.

The labour and social affairs and absorption minister was not in Judge Victoria Ostrovsky-Cohen's Tel Aviv District Court to enter a plea on charges he dipped into the Rabbi Yitzhak Abuhatzira charity fund for his personal use.

The charges, which include theft, aggravated fraud, breach of trust, and conspiracy to commit a crime, relate to Abuhatzira's term as Mayor of Ramle between 1974 and 1977.

Co-defendant and former aide Moshe Gabai, who also sat in the accused's box during Abuhatzira's first trial, was in court, but did not get an opportunity to enter a plea.

Gabai, the minister, and another two defendants were acquitted in their first trial in Jerusalem.

A packed courtroom listened to Abuhatzira's counsel, Ram Caspi, and State Attorney Gavriel Bach debate whether the minister, re-elected to the Knesset on June 30, had regained parliamentary immunity from prosecution.

The Ninth Knesset stripped Abuhatzira of the immunity in May so he could stand trial on the current charges. Judge Ostrovsky-Cohen, at the end of the three-hour courtroom session yesterday, said she would rule on the defence motion this week.

A ruling in favour of the defence will mean a lengthy delay of proceedings until the Knesset decides whether to lift Abuhatzira's immunity again.

Caspi opened by contending that his client, having again gained the trust of the public that voted for him, also deserved a new hearing in the Knesset on the revocation of his immunity. "Everything has now changed, and the considerations of this Knesset needn't be the same as those of its predecessor," Caspi said.

State Attorney Bach disagreed. Abuhatzira, he said, is a member of a "continuous" body — the Knesset — whose decisions are binding on its successive terms. "It is illogical that one Knesset will sit as an appeals board for its predecessor and deliberate the matter," he said.

Amos Shapira, professor of constitutional law at Tel Aviv University,

told *The Jerusalem Post*: "There is no explicit clause in the law forbidding such an appointment. But I think one can infer by analogy that it is against the principle of the law." The regulations affecting government workers and the codes of many professions clearly outlawed the appointment of a man being tried for a criminal offence, he said.

Asher Wallfish adds:

When the charges for this trial were filed against Abuhatzira, the prosecution asked for the trial to open at the beginning of June. The president of the district court, Judge Binyamin Cohen, observed then that the issue of the minister's parliamentary immunity would clearly be raised, either before the June 30 election, or subsequently. The defence asked to postpone the proceedings and the prosecution saw no point in insisting on an immediate trial.

In the opinion of the state, parliamentary immunity relates to the Knesset as a continuous institution, and not to a group of 120 MKs elected at a particular time, who constitute what is called the Ninth Knesset, or the 10th Knesset, and so forth.

OPINION

IT IS somewhat unfair to use the frantic end of the coalition-making process as an occasion for sitting in judgment on Israel's political system.

Coalition haggling time, is, admittedly, Israeli politics at its absolute worst. But judging it at such a time is like kicking a man in the butt while he is leaning over to swill from a trough. A gentleman might be tempted, but he should resist the urge.

For those who would question the validity of hurling at the political system a charge which they would prefer to lay exclusively at the feet of the Likud and of Menachem Begin, let me express what is more than a mere suspicion — that Labour, especially under Shimon Peres, would not be behaving very differently if it were in a similar state of dependence on the religious parties for the bare majority needed to rule.

The difference between Labour and the Likud on the issue of the scandalous concessions made to the religious parties, to judge from their comparative past performance, lies in two areas. Whereas Labour used to resist until it was finally forced to give in (the extent of its ultimate acquiescence depending on the degree of its state of thrall to the National Religious Party and the Aguda), Begin gives every indication of having invited the advances.

Secondly, Labour has a long record of resorting to a healthy cynicism in regard to the religious clauses in its coalition agreements with the NRP, making promises, but with every intention of never keeping those it could get away with flouting or postponing. As the late Levi Eshkol used to say: "I promised but I never promised to keep my promise."

Begin, however, is that most rare of creatures among politicians, an honourable man who has every intention of keeping his promises, even when they go against his deepest convictions concerning the sanctity of the defence establishment; or even against the best interests of the country, for which the

The Post's Yosef Goell assesses political prospects with the formation of Mr. Begin's new government. He believes that the coalition will encounter serious difficulties after the final Sinai withdrawal next year, and that if the Labour Party aspires to government it needs 'an effective new leadership.'

Prospect and prophecy

anti-Zionist Aguda doesn't give a fig, but which should have been of major concern to Begin and the NRP.

STILL, the main points of the present coalition agreement, the manner in which the ministerial and deputy-ministerial spoils were divided up at the last moment, and the personal behaviour of some of the protagonists in their final go at the trough — compared with the cynical behaviour of Labour at similar stages — would seem to constitute a difference of such magnitude as to verge on being a difference in kind. A difference that cannot but bode ill for the prospects of the quality of government we can expect under Begin II.

Israel has always had a messy, fractious and contentious political system. Under strong leaders, and at times of obvious crisis, it was made to work relatively — and at times even surprisingly — well in facing up to the Promethean challenges that confronted Israel in her first two decades. The inevitable decline set in during the early 1970s under Labour, culminating in the internal dissension that was the hallmark of the last Labour government.

The main "sin" of which the Likud was guilty during its first term of office was that instead of serving as a new broom and tackling problems with verve and initiative, it took over from Labour's nadir and plumbed new depths of misgovernment.

One would have to be a wild optimist to expect better from Begin

II. Still, some potential improvements may be noted. Ariel Sharon, a talented but possibly dangerous man, will undoubtedly be a vast improvement over Menachem Begin at Defence. Sharon may not be everyone's cup of tea, but he is a pragmatist, not a wild-eyed true believer. He also knows the army and will control it rather than permitting the most political of Israel's chiefs of staff, Rav Aluf Eitan, to control him, as he did Begin, whose lack of knowledge on matters military was a major cause for unvoiced but genuine concern over the past year.

THERE IS LITTLE to be expected from Yacov Meridor in his allotted role as super-economic coordinator, where he may well prove to be a pesky fifth wheel. His real contribution, however, may come as the only man in Herut and in the government to whom Begin will listen. Dayan tried to fill that role in the last government, but it worked only up to a point, and he was finally neutralized by the suspicion that was attached to him as a renegade life-long Labourite.

Meridor, for all the focus-pocus of his pie-in-the-sky cheap election play (has anyone paid attention to the fact that he is a major investor in a new oil drilling project, despite his promises that his new process will free the world of its dependence on oil?) is a man of the world. One can only hope that he will have a major input on Begin's own perceptions of that world out there.

Yoram Aridor has proven to be

talented and masterful at sleight-of-hand election economics. His policies are directly responsible for the worsening of the present economic indicators.

But talent is a rare commodity in Likud governments. Compared to the catastrophic Simha Ehrlich and to the politically powerless Yigael Hurvitz, Aridor may still prove to be a pleasant surprise by putting his undoubted talent and political clout to work positively on the economy and on the problem of inflation.

But good, or even better, government is not to be expected from Begin II. The sorry probability is that we would not have had good government from a narrow Labour coalition either: particularly not from one under Shimon Peres at the helm, totally beholden to the new generation of Labour power-brokers.

LABOUR'S PROBLEM is the opposite to that of the Likud. Compared with the Likud's embarrassing dearth of talented men at the top, or indeed anywhere, Labour has a surfeit of such people. But Labour lacks what the Likud has: an unchallenged leader at the top who, if he put his mind to it, could keep his ministers in check and functioning.

There is no reason to believe that the 61-man Begin II government will live out its allotted parliamentary life. This will be a coalition in which not four constituent parties but 61 prima donnas will possess veto power over all controversial issues.

In all likelihood, the coalition will hold together until after the trauma of the final withdrawal from all of Sinai and the relinquishing of the Rafiah settlements and Yamit next April. After that, it's anyone's guess.

It is thus more urgent than ever that new forces in Labour get down to tackling the problem of choosing an effective new leadership that could take the party out of its present transitional doldrums and prove attractive to voters.

In the aftermath of Labour's second electoral loss, there have been voices calling for it to trim its sails in the direction of the "Sephardi vote" and of a prospective coalition with the Aguda. This is just the direction that Labour should not take in a moment of post-electoral panic.

But Labour needs a better leadership: one that will appeal to the integrated Sephardi voters and to religious voters who blanch at the prospect of a descent into Aguda-style anti-Zionist obscurantism with which the Begin-led Likud has bedded down.

THERE IS no way for Labour to evade the problem of choosing a new leadership as a prelude to contending again — and much sooner than 1985. There is also no way of ignoring the popular preference for a party led by distinctive, strong leaders who control their parties, rather than by faceless collective leaderships, such as the one Labour offered the last time around.

In truth, it is equally important for the health of Israel's body politic that the Likud engage in such a house-cleaning process, too. But political realism dictates that such a process will not even be started as long as Begin is at its head.

For Labour, the silver lining of its second electoral defeat is that it has been given the chance to clean its own house — a task that it ignored in its first four years in the opposition.

Power, not for power's sake, but for the purpose of giving Israel a better government than it has had for the past decade.

Sharon's 'Jordan option'

PUBLIC FACES
Mark Segal



Health Minister Shostak

Jordan...I was then O/C Southern Command and argued that we should not save King Hussein, but I was in the minority... My view is that the Palestinians should be allowed to take over Jordan... to give them a political expression... Palestinians do have their own state in Jordan."

THE SHARON interview was shown to me by Sydney lawyer David Singer, who a year ago formed the "Jordan is Palestine Committee." Singer, here for the recent conference of Jewish lawyers and jurists, says the committee now has branches in the U.S., Holland, France, West Germany and even Japan.

Among the other documents in Singer's possession is a copy of Ronald Reagan's pre-election speech to the B'nai B'rith convention last September, when he argued that "the solution to the Palestinian Arab refugee problem should be in Jordan." I wonder whether this was the message he repeated to his most recent visitor at the White House, President Anwar Sadat of Egypt.

TOUGHEST JOB in the cabinet may be that of Minister of Tourism Abraham Shari. He may regret that he's finally made it into the government when he begins to tackle the problems caused by Shabbos shutdowns of Ben-Gurion Airport and the ports, and increased *kashrut* supervision in the country's hotels.

WEDNESDAY'S Knesset debate on the new government was certainly a circus act, but it has a serious rival for the title of the week's most entertaining parliamentary event. After Health Minister Eliezer Shostak tabled a bill limiting the use of hypnosis in Israel, CRM-Alignment MK Shulamit Aloni made an acid comment about Begin's use of mass hypnosis, and Mapam's Victor Shentov took the rostrum to urge Shostak to "award the Herut leader with the title of Qualified Hypnotist, without requiring any of the examinations stipulated in the proposed law."

"He has hypnotized many people, and blundered their memories," said Shentov.

The Likud response came from Ehud Olmert who accused the Alignment of "being subject to collective auto-suggestion." Rafi Sulam of Labour had this to say: "The bill imposes a year in jail on any unauthorized hypnotist, while our people has just been sentenced to four years."

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THE DRAMATIC RETURN to the fold of David Levy affected the ethnic balance somewhat, but it still

can be said that the Begin cabinet is the most Polish this side of Warsaw. That despite the fact that the broad base of Likud support is made up by Sephardim.

THE LATEST political witicism: What's the difference between Bjorn Borg and Yosef Burg? It's not only that the former is a world tennis champion and the latter is the globe's longest-serving cabinet minister. It's also that when the tennis player loses, he does not emerge the victor.

Two interesting private members' bills have been tabled with the start of the 10th Knesset by Amnon Rubinstein (Shinui) and Rabbi Menachem Hacohen (Labour): both seek to regulate the allocation of tax-payers' money to Agudat Yisrael yeshivot. While Rubinstein wrote in his preamble "there can be no comparison between the universities' contribution to Israel's society and economy, and Aguda's yeshivot which deny the Zionist idea and educate against army service." Rabbi Hacohen sought to set proper criteria for state-funded yeshivot, noting: "After all, unlike yeshivot not everyone can open a university."

IT'S DOUBTFUL whether Begin will heed Yossi Sarid's request in

(Continued on page 17.)

Helen Wolfers considers why Israelis leave the country and whether anything can be done to get them to return. She says that despite the hysteria about emigration, Israel's Jewish population is increasing, and that 'to my mind the Zionist dream has succeeded beyond our wildest imaginings.' The writer argues that 'we would do better to concern ourselves with who it is that stays in Israel and who continues to come here, instead of forever hankering after those who do not come and those who leave.



Yemenite Jews on their way to Israel in the "Magic Carpet" operation in 1949.

The Zionist balance sheet

THERE ARE between 300,000 and 400,000 Israelis living outside Israel. It is estimated that every fifth family in Israel now has an immediate relative living abroad, and the exodus is likely to accelerate. Once Israeli communities are established abroad it will be easier for others to follow.

In Israel, there are quite naturally reactions of resentment and even panic to this exodus. Societies to counter emigration advocate such measures as providing housing for the young, improving the quality of life, providing incentives for return, and relieving the emigrant of social stigma or, alternatively, pouring on the guilt.

I do not believe that idealistic motives or artificially imposed incentives or disincentives ever have much effect on population movements. There can be no more convincing proof than the geographic dispersion of Holocaust survivors that idealism does not significantly influence populations in where they choose to live.

Efforts to bring *yordim* (emigrants) back to Israel are not likely to succeed any more than have attempts to bring Western Jews to Israel. Social reform within Israel to ease the economic burden on young couples setting up homes is an urgent necessity in its own right. But as a counter to emigration it is likely to have limited effect. No matter how well off people may be in Israel, there will always be greater opportunities for material gain in more affluent countries, if that is the dominant motivating drive. Indeed, once an Israeli owns his own apartment, the possibilities for successful emigration are greater, not less.

Similarly, artificially imposed social pressure is likely to have little effect in preventing emigration.

WHY DID so many Israelis start leaving Israel in the mid '70s? One popular view sees the cause in a deteriorating economic situation. The reality appears otherwise. People live, travel and eat better in Israel today than ever before since the creation of the state. Nor is it only the poorest who leave. Among those who have left many own their own apartments, and cars.

Statistics on those who are leaving are sadly lacking. The Ministry of Immigrant Absorption defines an emigrant as an Israeli who has remained abroad more than four years, and no demographic survey of these emigrants has yet been undertaken. However, from the reports of concerned citizens working in the field, two impressions

emerge. The first, that the emigrants are from two major economic groups: middle-aged middle class and young blue-collar workers. Second, the religiously observant are conspicuously absent among them. If these unsubstantiated impressions reflect the true situation, there are some extremely important conclusions to be drawn.

It would seem that prosperity rather than destitution is sending Israelis out of Israel. A fairly standard apartment in Tel Aviv or Jerusalem today can be sold for more than \$100,000. Immigrants who arrived in this country twenty years ago did not have the wherewithal to buy an air ticket to the U.S., let alone a licence there to drive a taxi or run a restaurant.

THERE ARE certainly glaring problems confronting young families in Israel — the almost total lack of rental accommodation, ridiculously high taxes on electrical goods and cars. But it is by no means certain that easing these conditions will stem the exodus.

One hears from the Citizens for the Prevention of Emigration, ELI, that economic difficulties are a major cause of emigration, while at the same time people are closing down successful businesses in Israel to leave the country. Other concerned citizens are blaming the quality of life as a major factor contributing to *yerida*. While improvement in the quality of life may always be a desirable thing in itself, this factor hardly seems a satisfactory answer to the question of why Israelis are leaving Israel.

No one in his right mind could favourably compare the quality of life in New York with that of Israel, whatever Israel's failings. New York is infinitely dirtier, more dangerous, crowded and inconvenient. Nor can the avoidance of army service be cited as the major factor in this emigration. Many *yordim* have already completed their army service. I have met young people intending to go abroad for protracted periods, who first wait to complete their army service in case they should wish to return at some later time.

Similarly, Israel's security does not afford a reasonable explanation. Israelis were not emigrating en masse in the '50s and '60s when the country's future seemed at least as precarious, if not more so.

WE MAY conclude that emigration is caused by a combination of all these factors. But as they were all there since the inception of the state 30 years ago, some further factor

must be offered to account for the substantially larger emigration of the '70s. And this is deemed to be sudden or gradual failure of idealism among the people. "Whatever happened to the spirit of Zionism?" It is pathetic to hear this lament from the old guard. If only the people in Israel today had the self-sacrificing, burning idealism of the valiant pioneers. That is what is missing.

That is why the young who can't buy apartments, the middle-aged who have apartments, the kibbutzniks who live in their gardens of Eden, are deserting the ship.

"And so," concludes the Association for the Prevention of Emigration, "where we have failed in education," by which they mean Zionist education. We must intensify our efforts at instilling a sense of Zionist idealism in our children. But my daughter, aged 11, who has been attending an Israeli secular school for the last four years, already spends more than half her time studying Jewish festivals, Bible, Talmud and Israeli history, ancient and modern. There is hardly room to introduce more public holidays into the Israeli calendar than we already observe with unique enthusiasm and ceremony.

Idealism, by its very nature, is a minority affair of fleeting existence. It has never sustained whole populations over extended periods of history, not even in Jewish history. The Zionist goal is in urgent need of re-examination, both within Israel itself and in the Jewish Diaspora. It is our fossilized resistance to facing this problem which is preventing us from dealing effectively with the present profound changes in Israeli society.

At the time of the establishment of the state in 1948, a substantial proportion of the Jewish population must indeed have been idealists. The original aim of Zionism was to establish in Palestine a Jewish homeland. Those who came to the Palestine from Europe, along with a handful of Jews from other Western countries were idealists, willing to forgo material benefits and endure much hardship and danger, in pursuit of their goal. By the time they had achieved it European Jewry was effectively wiped out.

Had it not been destroyed, hundreds of thousands if not millions of Jews would have flowed into Israel not out of idealism, but out of the sheer necessity to escape Hitler's persecution. As it happened, the very establishment of the state created another source of immigration of hundreds of thousands of Jews uprooted by Arab hostility. What may have aided the illusion

that this first really massive Jewish immigration to Israel was somehow idealistic, rather than a forced transfer of population, was perhaps its suddenness. What happened, in fact, was that Israel passed very rapidly in the next decade from a country in which Jewish idealists predominated to one in which they did not.

In the ensuing two decades the majority of new Israelis concerned themselves with re-establishing their shattered micro-economies. Having done that, many of them are now in the position to look to even more prosperous countries than Israel, which offer even more opportunities for material comfort and security. And they are likely to have relatives abroad to help them settle in.

However, we would do better to concern ourselves with who it is that stays in Israel and who continues to come here, instead of forever hankering after those who do not come and those who leave.

Meanwhile, despite the hysteria over *yerida*, Israel's Jewish population is increasing. Forty per cent of all Jewish babies born in the world today are born in Israel, where only 20 per cent of world Jewry resides. The birth rate among Sephardic Jews is falling, but among religious Jews it remains high. And the proportion of Orthodox Jews is growing, both from natural increase and from *aliya*.

Yerida is almost entirely secular. The Orthodox are not leaving Israel. In view of these facts it is high time to reassess the Zionist ideal. Today we have a Jewish state, but all the Jews have not come to live in it, as originally hoped. Nor will they. Present trends indicate that by the turn of the century half of world Jewry will be concentrated in Israel, due to natural increase in Israel and natural decrease, plus losses from assimilation, in the Diaspora. Physically, the very existence of Israel provides for all Jews everywhere, Zionists and anti-Zionists, atheists and assimilationists, a refuge in times of peril. The Holocaust unequivocally demonstrated that no people can afford to remain an identifiable group in the twentieth century without a voice to speak for it, an army to defend it and a land to which it has an unconditional right of entry. However American American Jews may feel, it is no more than German Jews felt themselves to be Germans.

SPRITUALLY, Israel is evolving into the religious and cultural fountainhead of the Jewish people. The confrontation of stultified Jewish ritualism with the challenges of a

modern state, will despite all the frictions, profoundly affect the course of Orthodox Judaism. The Orthodox in Israel today run modern hospitals, engage in modern agriculture and industry, fight in the most sophisticated of armies. This cannot but, in turn, force the main stream of Orthodox Judaism into the twentieth century.

In its universities, Israel has taken the lead in the preservation and revival of the cultural heritage of all Jews. In an unbelievable burst of productivity, archives, museums, encyclopedias have been created, our ancient history and the essential veracity of the Bible brought to light; new national holidays inaugurated; and new history as momentous as any in the long existence of the Jewish people has been written.

These are the actual achievements of the Zionist ideal. If the gathering of the exiles has been its failure, let us stop lamenting it and turn instead to challenge the Diaspora for the support it owes in return for benefits received. If we abandon the failed ideal of Zionism and adopt the realistic one of Israel as a necessary condition for the survival of the Diaspora, and Diaspora Jewry as a necessary condition for the survival of Israel, we will all benefit, and nothing will change in the future distribution of world Jewry.

THOSE WHO may yet need to come to Israel when there is nowhere else to go will still come, will those who find the resurrection of the Jewish State after two thousand years an irresistible experience. And those who prefer the diversity, the cross-fertilization and the material opportunity of the Diaspora will remain where they are, as long as they can, and be joined by Israelis who opt to do so as long as they can.

The pursuit of the now-defunct Zionist ideal can only lead us into futile policies doomed to further failure. There is no reason to hope that a new burst of expenditure on incentives, or propaganda of exhortations and condemnations will succeed in bringing back *yordim*.

Population movements do not follow designs of committees, but respond to the realities of historical events and developments. Israel has emerged as the spiritual and physical custodian of the Jewish people and the best that policies can do is to enhance this awesome role in the continuing drama of the Jewish people.

To my mind, the Zionist dream has succeeded beyond our wildest imaginings.



Rabbi Yosef Anteman and his family stand before their new flat in Yamit last week. (Israel Sun)

'Boosting morale' in Yamit

By JEFFREY HELLER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

YAMIT. — Gush Emunim leader Rabbi Moshe Levinger will soon focus his activities on preventing the evacuation of settlements in Sinai, a close confidant said last week.

Rabbi Yosef Anteman, a veteran of Gush Emunim settlement attempts in Judea and Samaria, said that Levinger's exact plans cannot yet be disclosed. But he said the Kiryat Arba rabbi will definitely not be moving into Yamit, or try to set up new settlements in Sinai.

Anteman, together with his wife and five children, are among the 13 religious families who last month moved into Housing Ministry-owned flats in Yamit.

They may soon be followed by Tehiya MK Hanan Porat, he said. The newcomers, Anteman said, will not resort to violence to prevent the pull-back, scheduled for April 1982. Levinger, he said, "is not violent, but calculating." Anteman added, "There are people in the region, however, who will take exceptional action."

A veteran Yamit resident, who identified himself only as Shlomo, said that the 13 families "want to put us in the category of extremists so that the government will have an excuse to evacuate us by force."

The mood in Yamit is one of bitterness against a government that, as residents wryly note, has not even sent out letters officially informing them they will have to leave next April.

"They want to wear us down, so that we'll drop to our knees and beg for money," Shlomo said.

Business owners last week did

receive letters from the government giving them until the end of the month to send in assessments for compensation, and advertisements tacked on the town centre's bulletin boards offer flats for sale in Beersheba, Kiryat Bialik, Ra'anana and elsewhere in Israel.

Anteman said that the flats which the 13 families obtained recently were arranged for legally with the Housing Ministry, but he declined to give any details. He said that the flats had never been occupied before.

The flats are situated next to an eerie-looking section of Yamit, in which completed air-raid shelters stand in sand dunes upon which houses will never be erected.

The families, most of whom left homes in Judea and Samaria that can presumably return to after April 1982, have found employment in Yamit and will send their children to the religious school in the city.

A belief that Yamit is situated inside the biblical Land of Israel was the underlying reason for setting up house there.

Anteman quoted Numbers 34 in which Nahal Mitzraim — the Egyptian river — is listed as the Land of Israel's southern border. The river, he said, could be interpreted as meaning Wadi el-Arish, south of Yamit.

The move, at a time when most Yamit residents are thinking about compensation terms and starting anew elsewhere, was also meant to boost morale.

"Our coming here caused great waves of support in the region," Anteman said. "Everyone should know that the people who built this town won't give up easily."

Mayor warns of Black Hebrews crisis

Dimona Mayor Jacques Amir, last week called for a special cabinet meeting to discuss the Glass Committee report on the Black Hebrews.

In a telegram to Prime Minister Menachem Begin, Amir warned that what has happened in Arad is an indication of what might happen elsewhere in the country if something is not done quickly about the Black Hebrews.

On August 2, a group of 20 Black Hebrews who earlier had been moved out of their flats in Arad while the authorities disinfected the premises were locked out by their Israeli neighbours, who welded the gates shut and have since locked themselves in the building.

A committee chaired by then

MK David Glass over a year ago submitted its recommendations for a solution to the problem. Its major proposal was that the sect be concentrated in a separate settlement of their own somewhere in the Negev.

The sect's beliefs and life style have resulted in constant friction between the Black Hebrews and the Jewish population of Dimona and Arad. The sect also has posed a legal problem for the state, which does not recognize its members as Jews, and many of the sect members are in Israel illegally.

Amir complained last week that the cabinet has not yet looked at the report and that relations between Jews and Black Hebrews in Arad and Dimona are deteriorating.

The main source of fuel: timber

TORA AND FLORA
L.I. Rabinowitz

Portion of the week: *Va'Eichanan*. Deut. 3.23-7.11. Haftara: Isaiah 40.1-26. The verse discussed is Isaiah 40.16.

IN THE haftara of this Sabbath, the prophet points out that man cannot possibly, despite the abundance of Nature, offer up a sacrifice of thanksgiving to God commensurate with all His manifold bounties. In this context he states that all the timber of the mighty and famous Forest of Lebanon cannot provide sufficient fuel for this sacrifice.

An enormous amount of timber must have been needed to keep the altar fires continually burning for the daily sacrifice alone (cf. Lev. 6.6) and for the additional offerings. The Mishna (Tamid 2.3) goes into considerable detail as to the species of timber used. With regard to the daily offering, we are told that "any timber was valid except for that of the olive and the vine, but the custom was to employ boughs only of the fig, the walnut and oleaster."

R. Ovadia Bertinoro gives two possible reasons for the ban on vine and olive. The first, their value as food, does not explain the use of the walnut and the fig, but the second suggestion is that they were reduced to ash too quickly. Similarly, with regard to the timber used for burning the Red Heifer, which was reduced to ashes, the Mishna (Parah 3.8) states that normally cedar, pine, spruce and, again, fig, were used, but later on (4.3), it states that in their absence any fuel, even straw, was valid.

It is obvious, of course, that wood was the main source of fuel in ancient times and, in fact, aside from *neft* (natural oil) the only one. Such an era seems to belong to the past, though I have a friend in Jerusalem who has the relatively rare wood-burning stove in his home, and from time to time, I replenish his supplies from what I find on my hikes.

Coal, gas, petrol, electricity, solar heat and atomic energy seem to have superseded wood for all time, yet according to a *London Observer* report in *The Jerusalem Post* last March 3, a recent study released in Washington noted that wood has a reasonable chance of coming back into its own as a fuel. Timber today in the U.S. is a greater source of energy than nuclear power, the report said, and a recent publication of the Jewish National Fund says that one of the benefits of its extensive afforestation in Israel is the supply of lumber.

"Our coming here caused great waves of support in the region," Anteman said. "Everyone should know that the people who built this town won't give up easily."

AJC singles congress

TEL AVIV. — Some 200 unmarried Jewish Americans aged 18 to 39 arrived here Friday for the Fourth Annual American Jewish Congress Singles Convention.

The singles, who are regarded by the AJC as the future leadership of American Jewry, will participate in two weeks of intensive tours around the country, meetings with public figures and with Israeli counterparts, seminars on Jewish issues, and social activities.

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SLAPPED TOGETHER as a far-out scenario, our story might be about this Arab oil sheikh, wealthy beyond all measure, who finally brings home to his palace the filly of his dreams — the incredibly beautiful embodiment of the pure Arabian ideal. What he can't understand, though, is why he had to buy her (for a hundred thousand sterling) from a mysterious masked intermediary, or why he had to swear never to try to uncover the secret of the birthplace of Bint el-Sumsum, for that was her name.

Ah, but the audience will know ("It'll be socko for Jews and Arabs") that beautiful Bint el-Sumsum first saw the light of day at an Israeli kibbutz, and it left-wing one at that.

The subject of the Arabian Horse Breeding Stables at Kibbutz Sha'ar Hagolan should really not be introduced as a fantasia, because the project is calculated as pure economics. Columns of statistics on estimated costs, taxation and profits support the application now pending at the Ministry of Agriculture for status as an approved enterprise, and the whole idea is to make the production of pure-bred Arab horses for export a branch of the kibbutz economy.

Twenty pure Arabians — six brood mares, one stallion-in-residence, and the rest colts — are now living a very good life at the Jordan Valley Kibbutz. Their immaculate stables are cleaned three times daily, and we should all have the household help these horses do. (Of course, we are not all so highly pedigreed.)

When I went to have a look at their living quarters recently, the stallion was just being led from here to there by a girl volunteer with flowing blond hair, and a very pretty picture it was. There is, in fact, hardly a prettier picture than one of well-kept stables and beautifully-groomed aristocrats: it all oozes class and wealth, tranquilly conspicuous consumption and elegant playtime for the landed gentry.

PRETTY PICTURES are not, of course, the object of the Sha'ar Hagolan project. At the moment, it is all hugely attractive, but entirely subsidized by the kibbutz; there are expenses only, with income still in the future.

"If the number of mares can be increased to 40, then selling could start in 1985," manager Yohanan Merhav told me. "And the market for pure-bred Arabian horses is today practically unlimited in many parts of the world — the United States, Latin America, Europe." The average price of a first-rate stallion is around \$5m., and can go up to \$20m., in which case he is likely to be owned by a syndicate. He is also very unlikely to be sold, because the income from stud fees is far more than most of us get for much more work.

Merhav, a slim young man with fair hair who also manages the kibbutz cowshed (250 cows, with 250 coming along as "replacers"), succeeds in being supremely cool about viewing his beautiful equine charges as foul-producing factories. Riding, he explains, is not encouraged, because I'm interested in minimum amortization.

Yet he certainly loves horses. It was primarily because of this love, and serious, if youthful ambition to raise Arabians, that he came to Kibbutz Sha'ar Hagolan in 1964 as a boy of 15. Seven years after his parents had brought him to Israel from Poland. The son of an army officer and a country-bred mother, Yohanan rode his first horse at the

age of two. There was just one horse at the kibbutz when he arrived, "a work horse of Hungarian origin." Her filly, Judith, whose sire was "a local stallion, very Arabian in type" was trained by Yohanan using self-taught, intuitive methods.

The growth of the Golan stables since then, as is the case with all such off-beat projects, has been due to Yohanan's single-minded enthusiasm, plus, of course, the kibbutz' support, which over the years changed from a complaint about indulging one individual's hobby to satisfaction at a general attraction.

While I was talking to Yohanan in his "office," a sort of shed half way between the cows and the horses, the kibbutz treasurer turned up, his baby daughter on his shoulders, to observe with pride that a photo of a Golan horse had made one of the afternoon papers, "but with the wrong caption."

Most of the winners at the horse show held recently at Rishon LeZion, and glimpsed briefly on Israel television, were from the Golan stables. The exceptions were imported horses purchased by local enthusiasts for hefty prices. "Our winners were all Blue-White," said Yohanan, with the gleam of a potential exporter.

WORKING WITH Yohanan is Neil Blumenfeld, Pittsburgh-born and formerly a cowboy in Colorado, who lassoed Herefords on the open range. Neil came to Israel and the kibbutz *ulpan* in 1968, married a kibbutz girl — they now have two daughters — and has been at Sha'ar Hagolan ever since. Like Yohanan, he deals with both cows and horses. In their office, flanked by a display of blue, red, yellow and green ribbons, an enormous chart indicates the calf-due dates of a large number of cows, and expected floating dates of a smaller number of mares.

Neil handles the enormous load of paper-work involved in a breeding stable: all those bloodlines and stud books with funny names are in English. He also helps Yohanan spread the word on the stables' progress and needs. Thus, two articles by Yohanan appeared in the very glossy monthly magazine, *Arabian Horse World*. That particular issue ran to 509 pages — an indication that horses are big business indeed.

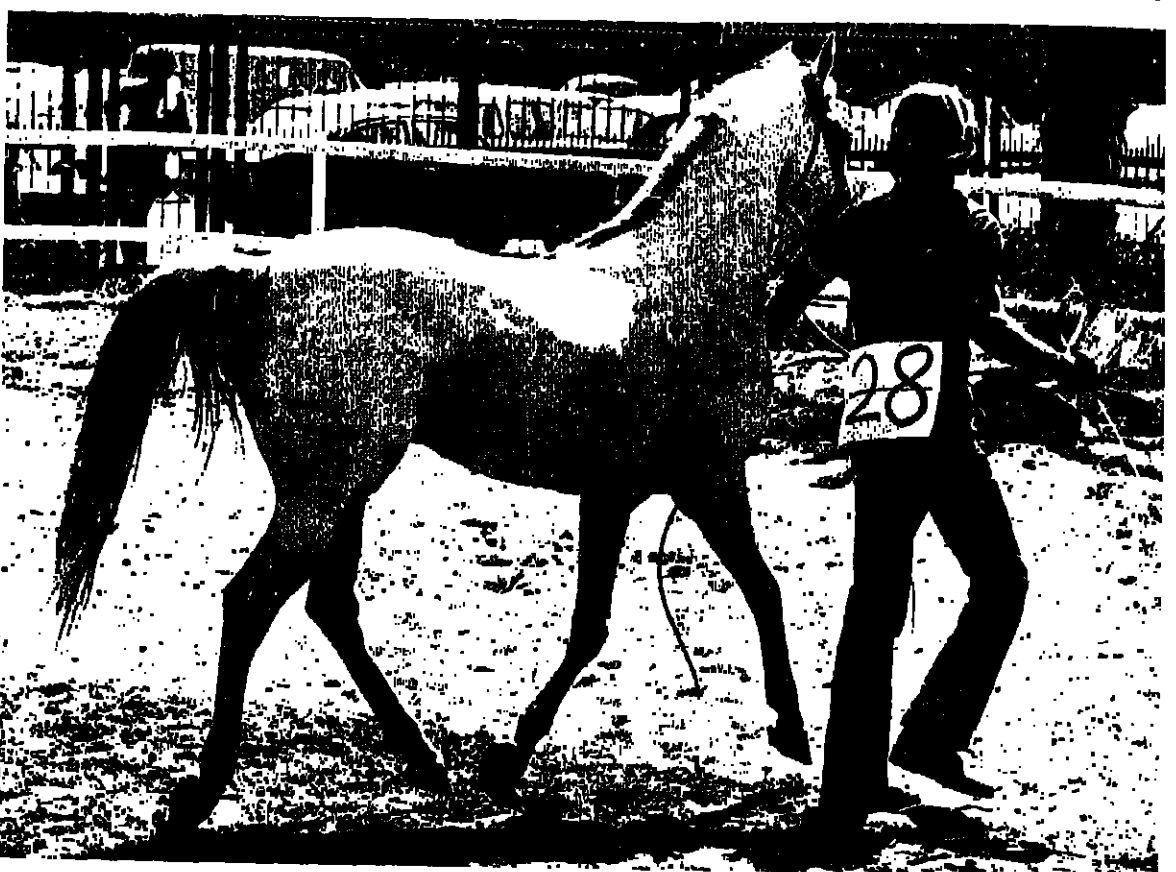
By now, as is known in landed-gentry circles here, practically every kibbutz in the country has two or three horses, and in some cases as many as 10 for the leisure-time enjoyment of members. Horses for the sporty rich are also easily found in such formerly rural settlements, now commuters' paradises, as Kfar Shmaryahu and Ramat Hasharon. The Israeli horse, in other words, has come full cycle, from the time of the equine ingathering, when work-horses, were imported by the government (from Hungary, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Norway, and yes, even some mustang blood from America) to do what is called black labour, all the way round to pure pleasure for Israelis and eventual exports for agribusiness.

An Arab horse bred in the Middle East, Yohanan explained, has an enhanced value abroad — "and it wouldn't matter whether it comes from Egypt, which today is second only to Poland as a source of such animals — or Israel." This lure of the Orient expresses itself in the names they are given. "Certainly, Americans have no idea of the meaning, and the name 'Bint el-Sumsum' has actually been registered."

Egypt is, in fact, the only Arab

Arabian assets

The Jerusalem Post's HELGA DUDMAN visits Kibbutz Sha'ar Hagolan, where horseplay has become a very serious and very profitable business.



country where the pure Arabian ideal survives. That statement sounds political, but refers to the fact that in Saudi Arabia and Jordan the desert animal of legend and poetry has disappeared, the result of invading armies — and the export, mostly to England, of the best horses. The Saudis prefer air-conditioned cadillacs, and King Hussein has to import his horses from England. The USSR, Yohanan continued, has now entered the Arab horse-breeding field, and so have Spain and Sweden.

As a branch of agriculture for Israel, it is especially suitable for kibbutzim (or moshavim) because settlements always have some marginal non-arable land, and because it has become a great attraction for some kibbutz youngsters. "Some of our children who may be problem students are very happy to work with the animals." Maintaining a horse at a kibbutz stable thus becomes an economic bargain. "It costs us just about IS15 daily, compared to the cost in England of around £10."

ALL THIS sounds very fine. I told Yohanan, but I had arrived at this kibbutz trailing clouds of long-vanished Hashomer Hatzair ideology — egalitarianism and non-exploitation and all that. In other top horses and top people were having such a good time, my concern remained with the underprivileged toilers — those cart-horses, asses, mules, and yes, why exclude the donkeys, who suffer on our streets and highways.

As to four-legged sex-life at Sha'ar Hagolan, the horses have it very different from the cows. The dairy herd, Yohanan explained patiently, is reproduced entirely by artificial insemination: experts arrive with little capsules, and that's all. But this is more difficult with horses, although in other countries mares, too, are artificially in-

seminated. And so, unless the stallion in residence has been selected for the job (a matter of careful bloodline analysis) Sha'ar Hagolan's mares are always taken to some stallion at stud elsewhere in the country.

THE HIGH POINT of my rounds of the stalls with Neil was a reunion with Sugar Plum Fairy. Imagine, I had not seen this champion mare since 1968, shortly after her arrival in Israel, when she was staying at the Ramat Gan Park (and, I believe, being ridden occasionally by Haim Bar-Lev, president of the Israeli Arab Horse Society). I was quite excited by the meeting, whereas she was indifferent in the extreme and barely twitched her sleek chestnut rump.

Way back then, I had been taken to Ramat Gan by Eli Rolbag, then chief veterinary surgeon for the Israel Police, to see Sugar Plum Fairy and another new Arabian immigrant, Railla. These two, who came not from Araby but from England, were the first of several first-class Arabians brought to this country at the start of a programme initiated by the late Kurt Loewenthal, who ran the only riding school in Jerusalem in the days of the Mandate.

He and Rolbag met Count Stefan Zamoyski in London in 1967 at the First International Conference of Arabian Horse Societies (to think of the meetings going on in the world that most of us miss!) and enlisted the interest of this Polish aristocrat in, of all things, the cause of the Israeli horse. It was through his generosity and contacts that breeding stock was acquired abroad, and why Sugar Plum Fairy — pregnant as usual, though she is by now a matron of 23 — now lives at a kibbutz.

Dr. Rolbag, an old friend who knows that I am much more involved with the smaller quadrupeds (he once even paid a house call on my sick cat), nevertheless took me along on a tour of Beduin tribes in the Negev 14 years ago, when Count Zamoyski was here to inspect and rate the desert horses. I have forgotten many of the events I have covered over the years, but I will always remember the sight of the count in elegant jodhpurs and boots, galloping across the trackless sands on mare after mare belonging to sheikh after sheikh, each rider peering intensely after this exemplar of European horsemanship and nervously awaiting the verdict.

The Beduin, according to Yohanan, are now more into cars and less into horses. Following the Jewish example, a post-Volvo Beduin generation will no doubt shortly arise that will turn to Kibbutzim for the horses they require for fun and exercise. I have left out a great deal in this account — nothing is as simple as it appears in print, and certainly not Arab horse-breeding. I must, however, mention the Cashvan Equine Centre, associated with Ben-Gurion University, which plans to provide complete breeding and veterinary services, although I gather that its associated facilities will stress animal research for the benefit of man.

I should also mention the government stables at Acre maintained by the Ministry of Agriculture, which actually owns all the stallions in the programme according to its contract with the Acre stables, Sha'ar Hagolan is entitled to all fillies foaled, while the colts belong to the ministry. It is beyond me why this vestige of romantic early agriculture persists and why this busy ministry should be in the horse business. (The Police are responsible for their own horses.)

Meanwhile, Yohanan's Arab Zionism addresses itself to wealthy Jews owning classy stables abroad: "We have no objection to your money, or even to your children — but do send us your horses." □

BOOKS

THIS LONG-AWAITED anthology, nearly 20 years in the making, proves to be an important and innovative collection. But before we get to the good things, a few caveats are in order.

Since the poems are "translated" only into paragraphs of English paraphrase, it must be pointed out that this collection is best appreciated by those capable of reading the verse in the original. Second, despite the editor's promise to the contrary, the reader had better be prepared for an awful lot of liturgical verse.

A case can be argued for Carmi's decision against attempting to make English poems for each of the Hebrew selections. Translating the Holy Tongue presents a myriad special problems, and the editor indeed states that many fine Hebrew poems were omitted because their effects "would be totally lost in translation."

Yet a poem's inclusion in the collection does not necessarily signal that Carmi has overcome all formidable challenges. A case in point is a line like "Zur tayar yotsair yitru," which is rendered into virtually meaningless plain bones of prose: "God is an artist who can make his creation."

In fact, much of the English in this text gives a prosaic sameness to the sound of 3,000 years of verse. This is a high aesthetic price to pay, especially when good English poetic translations already exist for many of the choices, such as in the biblical, Spanish and modern periods.

A PROBLEM also arises for the secular reader faced with so much religious verse. Carmi has brought to light, often for the first time, many examples of secular and even sensual poems which have long been either forgotten or suppressed. But the fact remains that throughout the biblical period and for the 10 centuries which followed, Hebrew poets wrote virtually nothing but religious verse.

If this secular reader doesn't doze when reading somebody else's prayers — and some of the selections here are in fact found in the *siddur* — then he must at least admit to a certain failure to sympathize which considerably reduces his poetic experience.

The situation, heretical as this may sound, is akin to this Jew's visit to the Vatican galleries, where I had to appreciate the technical achievements by all those Italian artists without partaking of the iconography.

WITH THESE caveats aside,

First of its kind

THE PENGUIN BOOK OF HEBREW VERSE edited and translated by T. Carmi London: Penguin. 608 pp. £6.95.

S.T. Meravi

however, *The Penguin Book of Hebrew Verse* remains a storehouse of multiple and often surprising treasures. A scholar whose research extended as far as the still-unpublished portions of Cairo's Geniza manuscripts, some 40 per cent of which are verse, Carmi ultimately relied on his poet's sensibility as the final arbiter of what should be included in the anthology. And as anyone who knows Carmi's own poetry will agree, his taste is excellent.

Only the Bible selections are predictable: "The Song of the Sea," David's lament over Saul and Jonathan, the 23rd Psalm, slices from *Isaiah, Song of Songs and Lamentations*, and Deborah's chant (interestingly, she may be the last woman we'll hear from for 3,000 years until we get to Yoheved Bat-Miriam, who died last year).

Next come mad, visionary selections from Jesus Sirach and from the Dead Sea Scrolls. Talmudic verses and *piyutim* (liturgical poems) then follow.

Among the richest sections of the anthology is that of the Spanish poets. Carmi includes a generous helping from my favourite of the period, Moses Ibn Ezra — although he chooses one of my less favourite poems, "To Isaac, His Brother." It was in Moslem Spain that Jewish poets finally turned toward secular subjects, and many of the wine,



Haim Nahman Bialik



Lea Goldberg

women and war songs which they wrote are deservedly well-known.

THE LAST OF the major Spanish Jewish poets was Solomon Bonafed, who is represented here by "Topsy-Turvy World," a plaint with eerie pre-echoes of both "Dover Beach" and "The Widening Gyre."

After the expulsion from Spain, the centre of Jewish poetry shifted to Italy, where Hebrew versifiers wrote in a wide variety of styles — including sonnets some 200 years before Petrarch. The Jewish poets were also endlessly inventive with themes. One anonymous scribe wrote a brief monologue in the form of a "Song of the Newborn on the Eve of His Circumcision." Another, describing "A Trip to Germany," complains that he "could find nothing of note except that — Oh, perversely! — there the women ride over the men... I am heartily sick of these Ashkenazim. They are all grim-faced and have beards like goats. Don't believe a word they breathe."

Like most literary historians, Carmi dates the modern period in Hebrew poetry with Bialik, but I can't help thinking of that late Italian master of both secular and religious verse, Immanuel Franes (1618-1710) as something of a modernist ahead of his time. This is evidenced by some of the choices included here, such as Franes' bitter-sweet, "The Old Whore's Lament," and the heart-felt sonnet called "The Dilemma": "When I see Hannah in full light, when I remember Naomi, perfect in splendour — my soul is aflame for Hannah, my spirit is kindled for Naomi..."

Bialik soon follows apace, however, and he is allowed abundant representative selections, as are Tchernikovsky, David Vogel, Uri Zvi Greenberg, Avraham Shlonsky, Avot Yeshurun, Natan Alterman, Lea Goldberg, Amir Gilboa, Abba Kovner, Yehuda Amichai and others.

Seeing these modern masters in such a setting — this is really the first time such a book has brought together Hebrew poems spanning 3,000 years — one cannot help but feel awe and admiration not only for their remarkable modern verse, but for the enduring people and language with whom they are in dialogue. This indeed is the triumph of any Hebrew poetry today, and much of what *The Penguin Book of Hebrew Verse* celebrates throughout the centuries. □

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Handwritten text in Arabic script.

The common thread

By ROCHELLE FURSTENBERG

IN THE NEW Habimah production, *The Workshop*, the biographies of its Israeli director, Michal Guvrin and its French playwright Jean-Claude Grumberg come together in a confluence of Jewish identity and the theatre.

The play, whose title in the original is *L'Adieu*, is about a Jewish woman who works as a seamstress in a small garment factory in Paris, one of the many set up by Jews in little apartments after World War II. The mother of two children, she still nourishes the hope that her husband will return from deportation.

The workshop becomes a microcosm of life in France after the war. It portrays the traumas of Jews coming back to piece their lives together much as they piece together the lining, the sleeves, the buttons for the jackets they produce. It reflects the web of guilt and misunderstanding with which Jews receive their fellow survivors and the difficulties of Jews and Frenchmen working side by side again. But it also embraces the humour, warmth and conflict of all human situations. It is the story of playwright Jean-Claude Grumberg's mother.

Grumberg, who was in Israel for the previews of the play, described his background.

"My father was taken away by the Germans in 1943, while my brother and I were smuggled by a nun to the south of France. My mother hid in Paris. After the war we were reunited with my mother, but my father had died in a Nazi transport. I don't remember my father. Mother rarely spoke of him and possibly the play is a way of dealing with his absence. He is not on stage; he exists only in his

absence. Perhaps the play is also a way of grappling with, and trying to understand, my mother's situation in those determining years of our lives.

It portrays the workshop where she lived, for it was there, at work, that she lived more than anywhere else. There she could talk about her children, her husband's absence, her desires, her sexual privations. As a child I was always aware that this was the most important place for her."

THE MILD, scholarly-looking Grumberg has an intimate knowledge of these tailors' workshops, and not only through his mother's experience. From the age of 14 to 18 he himself worked in such places to help the family make ends meet.

"Because he was a child of the Holocaust, Grumberg's personal story is integrally tied to that of the Jewish people.

"The memory of Jewish genocide," he said "is becoming the common bond between Jews. It is replacing Israel as the focus of identity. All Jews have recently been made to share in European history. But it is hard to write authentically about the Holocaust itself." It is because of this that Grumberg's plays about the Holocaust deal with either the advent of the catastrophe or its aftermath, but never with the horror itself.

MICHAEL GUVRIN, director of the Habimah production, is a tall, blond, highly intellectual and versatile woman. A lecturer on the history of the theatre at the Hebrew University, she is the author of a recently published volume of poems *Tha Hour*, and has translated and directed many works, including

Miroslav's *The Immigrants*, Beckett's *Marcel and Camille*, and an adaptation of *Shaharit*, the morning service. Like Jean-Claude Grumberg, she is a child of Holocaust survivors.

We met at her parents' home in Tel Aviv after a gruelling rehearsal. "My mother," she said, in her deep-voiced direct way, "was my model for the heroine of *The Workshop*. I used to hear a great deal about the period after the war when my parents came to Israel. Even here they were received with suspicion and bitterness. They weren't able to relate what had happened. No one wanted to hear what they had experienced."

"This period after the war particularly interests me, this grey period. It helps me understand why people are the way they are and not otherwise. I think it is also important to expose Israeli audiences to what the Jews of the Diaspora experienced, to the complexities of the Diaspora."

The family backgrounds of the Israeli, Michal Guvrin, and the Frenchman, Jean-Claude Grumberg, have sent both of them in quest of Jewish historical perspective, in search of self-definition.

For Grumberg, as a Diaspora Jew, the sociological definition seems primary, the Sartrean definition of Jewishness as imposed by the outside world, by the somewhat uneasy situation of Jews in France, and, most important, by the memory of the Holocaust.

As an Israeli, Michal has no problem of socio-political identity. But she has been driven by a parallel need to take her congenial self-definition and follow it through to a deeper understanding of Judaism. She has, in her own words, "gone in quest of meaning and structure in



Yael Drunayov, Miki Kamm and Shmuel Segal in *"The Workshop."*

exploring Jewish sources."

And like Grumberg, she has done it through theatrical creativity. In contrast to some of the theatre people, who turned their back on the theatre as they became more involved in Judaism, Guvrin has used her understanding of the meaning of theatre to delve into the investigation of Jewish sources.

Having studied theatre at Tel Aviv University, Michal Guvrin perceived Judaism in generalizations applicable to the dramatic arts. Why did Judaism have no theatre in the Western sense? How were Jews able to express their pent-up emotions?

She began to study the matter. Because she received no encouragement in Israel, she went to Paris to do her doctorate on contemporary religious theatre, the connection between ritual and modern theatre with emphasis on the theatrical aspect of Hassidism.

Michal Guvrin can be seen as part of the new movement in Israeli drama which seeks to return to Jewish sources.

Rooted in the defining memory of the Holocaust, the French playwright and Israeli director have joined sensibilities in *The Workshop* to create a memorable experience.

Surprise at the Opera

By YOHANAN BOEHM

"LA TOSCA." Opera by Giacomo Puccini, produced by the late Edis de Philippe; conductor: Alexander Tarkel, with Caterina Miniccozzi (Tosca), Thomas Serpico (Cavaradossi), Rio Novello (Scarpia), Mordechai Ben-Shahar (Angelotti), Gloria Sharon (Sacerdoti and Otello), Raphael Rosenblat (Spoletto). Presented by the Israel National Opera (Binyan Ha'Amah, Jerusalem.)

AFTER A prolonged spell, I was curious to see whether there had been any improvement in the Israel National Opera's professional level or whether the company was still mired in all its former limitations.

After an encouraging presentation of "Otello" some weeks ago, I tried again with "La Tosca" and I confess I was pleased to note some good singers, attractive settings, and a not-too-bad orchestra, making this visit worthwhile.

The main roles were mostly very well represented — Caterina Miniccozzi produced a beautifully rich and finely balanced soprano with only her stilted acting detracting somewhat from the impact of her appearances. Cavaradossi (Serpico) not only sang well but moved creditably around the stage; his friend Angelotti (Ben-Shahar), on the other hand, exhibited rather wooden movements and a voice that was not too fresh.

The chorus, the Opera's old nemesis, was as stiff and as lifeless as ever.

The atmosphere and tempo of the slow-moving opening act changed completely with the entry of Scarpia, who dominated the scene from then on. Dressed in rich and colourful garments, every inch the powerful and evil police chief in love with La Tosca, Rio Novello is a splendid singer and a forceful actor, exercising an invigorating and convincing influence on his fellow performers and on the audience.

The orchestra was much better than its reputation.

Jazz festival

A full-fledged jazz festival has descended on Jerusalem.

Eight top musicians have arrived here from the U.S. for a series of performances in a variety of venues and in a number of formats. The overall venture is called Jazz in Jerusalem, featuring Chick Corea and His Friends, and is sponsored by the Kinneret Foundation.

Chick reportedly so enjoyed his sell-out solo concerts here two years ago that he vowed to come back — and with accompaniment. And he says he had no trouble finding top-flight people eager to bring jazz to the Holy Land.

Chick's Friends this time around (the organizers are hoping to make this the first of numerous jams in Jerusalem) are saxophonist Michael Brecker, vibraphonist Gary Burton, drummer John Dentz, keyboardist Mike Garson, flautist Paul Horn, vocalist-keyboardist Gayle Moran, and bassist Steve Swallow.

Paramount's Golda

PARAMOUNT STUDIOS' production of *Golda* is scheduled to begin filming in Israel on August 31. Ingrid Bergman, who will play the late prime minister, arrives on September 6 from London, where she is currently adding a Yiddish inflection to her voice and learning to chain smoke.

Israfilim will handle the local aspects of production.

JOAN BORSTEN

PEOPLE

FORTY-ONE of the country's top museums, universities, orchestras, schools and other institutions were given their first big boost in the mid-fifties by an obscure American government programme aimed at selling books to "fight Communism."

The father of that programme, Bernard Katzen, is now visiting Israel 25 years after he distributed the then-princely sum of \$4.5m. among the various institutions.

Now 80 years old, but looking years younger and full of verve, Katzen has only praise for the institutions that received the money.

"Unlike many other programmes that received U.S. government funds, every penny was put to good use and was spent to build fine institutions," he says with satisfaction.

Katzen, a long-time Republican and once adviser to former U.S. secretary of state John Foster Dulles, is now chairman of the American section of the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists.

Katzen was born in Lithuania and emigrated to the U.S. at the age of six. He studied at City College and New York University Law School, becoming involved in Republican politics in a city where Jewish Republicans were as rare as snowflakes in June.

RUNNING FOR a congressional district at the tender age of 25, he was beaten by his Democratic opponent eight to one, and then defeated twice more, but by smaller margins, in subsequent races.

Though he didn't succeed in an elective political career, he excelled in working for the party and for other politicians. He was New York State commissioner for human rights, a special adviser to Dulles, a director of the Republican Party's ethnic (Jewish) division, and campaign manager for Senator Kenneth Keating of New York.

As adviser to Dulles, whom he describes as a "very fine man, despite what happened in the Sinai Campaign," Katzen was of much help to the fledgling State of Israel.

"The Bernadotte Plan, publicized after Count Bernadotte was murdered, was very dangerous for Israel," he recalls. "It would have taken the Negev away, internationalized the port of Haifa and established a corridor from the port to Jordan."

President Harry Truman was ad-

Looking back with pride

The account of Bernard Katzen's political efforts that helped many Israeli institutions get U.S. financial aid is recounted by Judy Siegel.



Retired Supreme Court Justice Haim Cohn (left), president of the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, reads the honorary life presidency scroll to Bernard Katzen. Man in foreground is unidentified.

vised by his secretary of state, George Marshall, to support it. But Katzen, who was suspicious of the polls that gave Thomas Dewey a clear victory in the 1948 election over Truman, urged Dewey (who had selected Dulles for his secretary of state) to publicly oppose the plan.

WITH AN EYE to the Jewish vote, Dewey not only opposed the Bernadotte Plan, but also pledged full financial, territorial and political support for Israel.

"Truman's people were so scared

that they not only advised the president to oppose the plan; Truman went beyond that by pledging \$100 million for Israel," says Katzen. Two years later, Katzen went on radio to defend Dulles — who was running for governor against Herbert Lehman in New York — against charges that Dulles was anti-Semitic.

Dulles, who later became Eisenhower's secretary of state, was forever grateful. Thus, he was very amenable when Katzen informed him about the government's programme of selling books and magazines in foreign countries to "fight Communism."

Almost nine million Israeli pounds (a huge sum then) had accumulated in Israeli banks, and there was no agreement to convert the money into dollars.

Katzen, who suggested that the money be put to good use, was sent by Dulles to Israel to find private institutions of worth that could use the money. It was the first time America gave such a sum to private institutions abroad.

"I had never been to Israel before — never flown in a plane before — and was scared stiff," recalls Katzen, who has since been to Israel 16 more times.

Katzen's fund contributed enough to push the building to completion. Other institutions to receive funds were the Israel Museum (at a time when its sorry predecessor, the Bezalel Museum, had to turn away rare works of art for lack of space), the Hebrew University, Hadassah Hospital, Tel Aviv University, the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Boys Town, Mossad Harav Kook, a school for the blind, Jerusalem's Beit Ha'am, and many more.

"They probably would have been established anyway, even if there had been no Katzen Plan," he notes, "but it probably would have taken much longer."

Katzen, who still works as an attorney, was "overwhelmed" when the international association named him an honorary life president — an honour previously given to the Nobel laureate Rene Cassin.

"I thought, 'Who am I to get such an honour after Cassin?' But, he adds with a wink, "Who am I to say no."

KATZEN'S HEAD is still full of politics, and he is convinced that President Ronald Reagan intends to run for a second term. Unless the country's serious economic and other problems are solved by 1984, Katzen believes that it will be a close race and that the Jewish vote will be crucial in determining whether Reagan is re-elected.

Katzen sees the Reagan Administration caught in a battle between financiers who want to court Libya and Saudi Arabia to obtain oil, at Israel's expense, and those "sophisticated diplomats who understand that Israel is America's only protection against Soviet penetration in the Middle East."

He is certain that supporters of Israel will win out in this confrontation. "We know that Israel is forever."

The Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv was just a heap of girders when Frederick Mann's \$250,000 contribution ran out and the city fathers worried that it would go no further.

for major items (homes, cars, appliances, etc.), it is best to go in pairs. Then if something promised verbally should be denied later there will be a witness to the conversation. Price estimates, delivery dates and other sensitive points are best put in writing.

There is a long list of matters on which anyone offering goods for sale or hire must not mislead a potential customer either positively or negatively. These include quality, weights and measures, delivery date, proper usage and the expected result, or provider of service, brand name, place of manufacture, care instructions, identity of the manufacturer, date of manufacture or expiration date, conformity to any standard, availability of parts and accessories, prices and payment terms, results of professional tests, previous use if any, servicing and guarantees.

One of the most useful provisions of the new law is for a "cooling off period" for anything purchased through door-to-door peddling. Goods may be returned within seven days of their receipt, and an order for services can be cancelled within seven days of signing a contract with a door-to-door salesman, so long as the service has not yet begun.

Another valuable clause protects against exploiting a person's handicap or ignorance in order to sell goods or services. Selling an encyclopedia to an illiterate who cannot understand what he is signing would almost certainly be invalidated under this provision. Similarly, it will become more difficult to take advantage of people who don't understand Hebrew.

Another section provides that goods "on special sale" must specify the former price.

WHILE A BILL on the labelling of food is still being debated, the Consumer Protection Law imposes the following labelling requirements for goods in general: descriptive name of product and its brand-name; country of manufacture; name and address of manufacturer, or of importer; quantity of the product, and its basic component materials. The ITT minister may exempt certain items from those requirements, or require additional information for certain items, such as price, production or expiry date, danger warnings, proper usage, quality durability, *kashrut*. Labelling must be in Hebrew unless otherwise officially stipulated.

DOES THE NEW Consumer Protection Law help the consumer who buys a defective product from a shopkeeper who does not subsequently take responsibility for its repair or exchange? Not directly, says Maya Tavori, but there is another law which already covers this, and that is the Sales Law (*Hak Hannecher*). Though not all consumers and shopkeepers know it, a shopkeeper is obliged to take back a product in which a production defect shows up within a reasonable time after purchase (even if the product has been used). If the defect can be repaired reasonably, this must be done — at the shopkeeper's expense and trouble.

Summer respite, for some

THE CONCERT season has definitely come to an end with the suspension — which we hope is temporary — of the Israel Festival: the concert-going public has a respite (as does the music critic) from having to make painful choices each evening on where to go: to symphony concerts, recitals, chamber music programmes or operas.

The long school holidays are usually the time for summer lovers and seminars for students and teachers. As for the rest of us, we are already scanning the announcements of the various musical organizations vying for subscribers during the coming season, opening in the fall.

A summer camp for the arts is in full swing at Kfar Galim for some 200 youngsters — mostly from development areas — who are training in dance, theatre and band music, and as is customary, the Rubin Academy in Jerusalem is holding its summer courses and master classes during July and August.

The Academy course opened with Hilda Zadek of Vienna giving individual lessons, and teaching some 20 participating singers in open classes.

From July 26 to August 7 Robert Sherman has been in the chair for interviews with local musicians. This is part of the exchange programme the Academy has with the New York University for academic credits. Sherman has a

MUSIC & MUSICIANS

Yohanan Boehm

daily radio programme in New York on music and musicians on WNYR — the "Good Music Station."

Nadia Reisenberg, the outstanding musician and teacher from the Juilliard School of Music in New York, will hold daily master classes for advanced students and young pianists. In addition, duopianists Eden and Tamir of Jerusalem will work with advanced students and professional teams — are there any in Israel besides them? — on the Two Pianos and Piano Duo repertoire.

Active and potential choral conductors have had four days, August 4-7 inclusive, to enjoy the expertise of conductors Gary Bertini, Stanley Sperber and Avner Itai.

Chamber music classes will be held by Jerusalem-born cellist Yehuda Hanani, now of New York, and violinist David Chen, Jerusalem, between August 16 and 28.

All these courses and classes are subsidized by the Rubin Foundation.

FOR THE THIRD time, prizes in honour of the late Edis de Philippe were awarded to soloists of the Israel National Opera. Worth \$2,000 each, the prizes went to sopranos Miriam Laron, Viorica Popp and Tari Gavor, tenor Sami Bechar, and baritone Giora Sharon.

Ex-convict a pop star

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Sitting in jail for a total of eight years for drug offences, robbery and other felonies, David Shoshi, who was released last month, never dreamed that he would emerge from prison to become a pop star.

At a press conference celebrating the completion of his record, *Shoshi in Agaf Sheva*, Shoshi said he hoped to rehabilitate himself with his singing and that he plans to make another record soon.

The album, produced by Dudu Elharar and distributed by Hed Arzi, was recorded entirely in the courtyard of the Beersheba Prison, with vocal backup and a chorus of Shoshi's mates, dubbed "The Guys from Division Seven." One of the songs in the album, *Fasoulia* (Beans), has become a hit.

The album took about six months to record, and Division Seven, known for its violent prisoners, calmed down considerably during the joint effort to produce the record. The album cover is designed by one of Shoshi's cellmates, Yossi Ben-Harush ("Kojak"), and the songs all deal with life in prison.

Shoshi, 37, was orphaned at the age of seven and grew up in a number of foster homes, and later became a criminal.

"Many prisoners don't want to



David Shoshi helps himself to a bowl of "fasoulia" (beans) from a pot in the Sheraton Hotel in Tel Aviv during a party celebrating the appearance of his record album. (Mudi Geller/Israel Sun)

get out of jail, because they have nowhere to go and no one to accept them," Shoshi said. "I want my album to show such prisoners that life can begin after a jail term."

Shoshi said he had wanted to sing to convicts throughout the country and to give them hope, but was not allowed to do so because regulations forbade former convicts from entering prisons.

Shoshi is now appearing with singer Hanan Yovel, who helped him with the album's musical arrangements, in performances dealing with life in Israeli jails.

Treasury backs cut in free credit

By SHLOMO MAOZ
Post Economic Reporter

The Bank of Israel has proposed that the government sharply cut free credit, perhaps by as much as 15-20 per cent in real terms, in the coming three months.

This proposal, which is supported by the Treasury, was discussed last week by the Bank of Israel's advisory council, with the bank's governor, Arnon Galny, and the council's chairman, Professor Haim Barkai, strongly supporting the idea. The proposal requires the approval of the economic cabinet before it can be implemented.

The bank is making the proposal regarding credit freely available on the open market in order to neutralize the effects of the government's recent large injections of money into the economy.

The bank reached a similar decision at the beginning of 1981, but the credit ceilings resolved upon were not adhered to and free credit grew each month on average by 2.4 per cent in real terms.

The bank's proposal, if enacted, will make it far more difficult for individuals and small businessmen (who are ineligible for directed credit) to receive loans from banks.

Persons who none the less decide to borrow money will end up paying much higher interest rates for it. Treasury director-general Prof. Ezra Sudin believes that such a



Prof. Haim Barkai

drastic reduction of credit will lead to an increase in interest rates.

To prove his point, Sudin cited the cases of United Mizrahi Bank and the First International Bank, which announced they were reducing interest rates on approved overdrafts and loans. But, in fact, they increased interest rates in general by vastly upgrading in unapproved overdrafts.

The Bank of Israel does not yet know what the new interest rates will be, but it is assumed that their increase will lead to people cashing in shares and bonds. If this occurs, there will probably be a drop in the share prices.

According to the proposal, the free credit will stay nominally the same for three months, to total IS23.5 billion until November 15. Thus the real reduction in interest

will be equivalent to the rate of inflation during the three-month period. During this period, the directed credit will grow by IS36, to reach IS24.6b.

In Tel Aviv last week, the Manufacturers' Association came out strongly against the Bank of Israel's intention to cut subsidized export credits by one third.

The credit cut, the manufacturers said, will jeopardize export deals in the second half of the year and will make it impossible to contract new deals. Workers will have to be laid off and enterprises will shut down, a delegation headed by the deputy chairman of the association, Dov Lautmann, told bank governor Arnon Galny.

The association further said that the intended reduction means a cut of IS1b. in current subsidies, which will reduce average profits by one half.

Lautmann protested that instead of seeing exports promoted at a time when businessmen are hit by the lagging rate of devaluation of the shekel against European currencies, the sector finds itself fighting policies that jeopardize its existence. This, he said, is especially surprising in view of the statements in the Bank of Israel's report on the means of payment, which was published a few days ago. The report pointed to a deteriorating balance of payments position.



Mordo Mordechai, 58, who worked in Ashdod Port for 28 years, shakes his fist at a Ports Authority official at a demonstration of pensioners who were demanding a rise in port workers' pensions, last week outside the authority's office in Tel Aviv. (IPPA)

Gold coins from Israel to adorn finger or throat

By GALINA VROMEN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Israel Government gold medals were once bought, treasured and stored away for another day. But now, the gold coins — in miniature size — are an investment that can be bought and worn, set in a pendant or as a ring.

The new coin jewelry, introduced in Israel last month by Aber and Levine, a small company in the Samaria settlement of Kedumim, is made according to designs and specifications of the large U.S.-based coin jewelry firm Wideband International.

The idea began two years ago, when the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation decided their medallions, reduced in size, could form centre pieces for coin jewelry. "We aren't really much of a commercial outfit, so our New York branch was in touch with Wideband International and they picked out four of our designs and began producing the jewelry with the corporation coins," said Yosef Atali of the government corporation.

But the jewelry — made with a 13-millimetre 21.6-karat coin (about the size of a new agorá) — was not available in Israel until Aber and Levine began manufacturing and marketing it here.

"It's still too early to tell how the jewelry will sell here. But there's been quite a bit of interest, not only

among tourists but also among Israelis," said David Levine, who owns the Israeli jewelry outfit together with his wife Sari (née Aber). Levine expects the jewelry to be popular as a present for bar-mitzvas, bat-mitzvas, weddings, anniversaries and holidays. "It is also a very nice way for tourists to remember a trip to Israel," Levine said.

The Coins and Medals Corporation will be offering the small coins — un-set — to its subscribers around Rosh Hashana, according to Atali. The small coins come in four designs: Shema Israel, bar-mitzva, bat-mitzva and wedding motifs. Previously the government issued only 14-karat 22-millimetre and 18-karat 30-millimetre medallions.

"Right now, you can't get these coins, at this size, any other way than at Wideband jewelry," Levine noted. His firm sets the coins in 14-karat gold to make cast pendants and rings suitable for men and women, with retail prices starting at about IS2,400. They also produce display frames for the larger government medallions.

Working with Wideband's designs and know-how "involves quite a sophisticated process," Levine said. "The coin has to be set so that it can be removed from its setting without destroying it, and it has to be set carefully because it is delicate 21-karat gold."

'Likud reforms have hurt the exporters'

By LEA LEVAVI
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Since the Likud's economic reforms of 1977, agricultural and industrial exports have become less profitable, Eliahu Izakson, president of the Farmers Association, told reporters here last week.

"We supported the reform because we believed the price of foreign currency would be set by supply and demand. It's not that way at all. The devaluation of the dollar and of other currencies simply increases inflation and raises our production costs."

Izakson, who is a member of the

Bank of Israel Advisory Committee, said he supports the Finance Ministry's plans for exchange rate insurance but that this isn't enough. "I'm afraid to use the word incentive, but exporting has to be made worthwhile, in other words profitable. There's much which can be done through the government's tax and fiscal policies, without giving us cash incentives."

He said the Coordinating Committee of Business Organizations (most particularly the Farmers Association and Manufacturers Association) will prepare a detailed memorandum to the Finance Minister on this issue.

Time-sharing hotel group to expand From Bombay to Tel Aviv

By MACABEE DEAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Robert Daniel, the 22-year-old vice-president of the International Time Ownership Group (ITO), is planning to form a chain of "time-sharing" hotels in Israel, adding two more to the present Mandarin Apartment Hotel.

"We are now negotiating to build a 360-room hotel in the southern part of Netanya; we plan a 250-room hotel for Jerusalem, but the plans for the latter have not taken on a definite form."

In Netanya, the cost will be about \$18m. (including \$1.5m. for the land on the seashore). He has found several persons (in the U.S.) who are willing to finance the project. ITO will do the marketing and management.

In Jerusalem, he is still looking for land, in the vicinity of the Old City wall. The plot there will cost anywhere from \$4m. to \$6m., with another \$12.5m. for actual construction. In the Jerusalem project, ITO expects to finance about one-fifth of the project.

"We hope to get the Netanya project moving within eight months; in Jerusalem, our timetable is still vague," he says.

The first hotel in the future chain, the Mandarin Apartment Hotel, should be opened this fall. The 300-room hotel, which is located on the seashore near the Country Club, north of Tel Aviv, will serve as the



Robert Daniel

model for the two future hotels, i.e. about one-third of the rooms will be rented as ordinary hotel rooms; one-third will be sold as condominiums; and the remaining third sold under a time-sharing scheme.

At the Mandarin, 40 per cent of the time-sharing rooms have been sold, and 25 per cent of the condominium rooms.

"Surprisingly enough," says Daniel, "5 per cent of the buyers were not only not Jewish, but people who fell in love with Israel." One family is from Japan, another buyer is a UN officer, a third is from Zaire.

During the past year, the prices of a time-sharing room (which a person can use for one week each year) have increased considerably. If the price for a room in the off-season one year ago was \$1,000, it is now \$1,500; and if the high season then cost \$3,900, the price is now \$4,400.

"And the average price in the in-between season has risen from \$2,200 to \$3,000," Daniel says. "A room in a condominium has risen from \$66,000 to \$70,000." Part of the hike, of course, is due to the devaluation of the dollar, but a generous portion is due to the fact that the time-sharing scheme has caught on.

Since the Mandarin is an approved enterprise, the investors (who must be foreigners) enjoy several financial benefits accorded by the Israeli government.

Daniel sees time-sharing as a valuable foreign currency earner. "Not only does the person bring in money when he buys his room — so far 40 per cent of the buyers have been Americans, 20 per cent English, 15 per cent French, and the rest scattered — but he spends money each year when he comes over to Israel, for air fares, meals, tours, etc."

Moreover, if the "time-sharer" does not care to come one year, and if he exchanges with someone else, the other person also brings in the same sums to Israel.

Shiploads of coal are coming

By ARYEH WOLMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The first large cargoes of coal to be sent to Israel in nearly 30 years are now on their way across the Indian Ocean from Australia, Ram Ron, managing-director of the National Coal Supply Corporation, said last week. But while the coal is almost here, the Hadera generating units are not ready to burn it.

The bulk loads of coal are the first instalment of an eventual yearly consignment of millions of tons, all destined for Israel's new, coal-fired power stations. In addition to two ships currently on the way from Australia, Ron said a third consignment — from Britain — was on the way.

However, Electric Corporation engineers are having trouble with the running-in of the 350,000 kilowatt Hadera station and expect it to start burning coal only in October. Until then, the Hadera sta-

tion will generate power by burning the more expensive heavy oil used by the country's three other power stations.

The first load of 62,000 tons of coal is due to arrive off Hadera on August 15, said Ron, the first large load since Israel Railways started from steam to diesel engines in the mid-fifties. Small quantities of coal have been imported for the metal industry since then.

The soaring cost of oil over the past eight years has forced Israel, like many other industrialized countries, to turn to coal to produce electricity. In the current fiscal year ending March 1982, the coal corporation has contracted to buy about one million tons of coal, mostly from Australia and South Africa. A small quantity will be purchased from Britain, whose prices have recently become cheaper with the falling value of sterling.

Meridor joining up with U.S. firm on Israel oil hunt

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

NEW YORK. — The highly respected Wall Street financial house of Rooney Pace and Israeli businessman and politician Yacov Meridor are partners in a \$20 million deal to drill an oil well southwest of the Dead Sea, the New York Post reported last week.

The well will be drilled by technicians of the Israeli government petroleum department under supervision of a Houston firm of drilling experts.

A Rooney Pace spokesman confirmed his company's involvement in the project, but refused to go into detail since the firm recently went into registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the project. Therefore, the company spokesman was restricted in what he could state publicly.

By JOSEPH MORGENSTERN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Somewhat like the Rothschilds, whose strength lay in the presence of the five sons of Mayer Amschel Rothschild in as many world financial centres, the success of the Mehta family in the diamond industry is closely connected with the four sons of Kirilal Manilal Mehta in different parts of the world.

At 74 Kirilal Mehta is celebrating his 60th year in the diamond industry. Born into the well known Surajmal Lalubhai family of Palanpur, India, he joined the family firm at the age of 13, when his father died suddenly in 1920.

His industriousness and his ability to master quickly the intricacies of the diamond trade, resulted in his taking charge of the family business at the age of 20.

A Hindu, he was active, under Mahatma Gandhi, in India's struggle for independence from Britain. Even then he showed the qualities of individuality and initiative that served him so well in the years that followed.

Nearly 50 years ago a trip to Antwerp to buy diamonds proved to have a decisive influence on his career. Shortly afterwards he formed his own company in Bombay, which in a short time became a major force in India's budding diamond industry.

In the mid-1940s he made his first diamond purchases from the fledgling Palestinian diamond trade.

This marked the beginning of the forging of close links between Tel Aviv and Bombay diamond markets. Not only has the link never been broken, but in 1972 Mehta received the Presidential Award as being the Outstanding Diamond Importer from Israel.

Vijay Mehta, the oldest son, heads the firm's Antwerp operation. Prabodh heads the New York office. Kishore runs the Bombay end of the business. And Rashmi, the youngest of the four, shuttles between Antwerp and Israel, since Gembel, Mehta's Israel branch, is located in Ramat Gan.

"Our diamond operation in Bombay employs some 1,000 people. By Israeli standards the Bombay operation is quite



Kirilal Mehta

primitive, as diamond polishing is done sitting on the floor with four workers on one polishing wheel." Kirilal Mehta told me in his North Tel Aviv residence. He maintains a second one in Savoyon.

The Bombay operation is now seething with activity, as demand for very small diamonds is almost at a record pitch. "There we make the cheapest of diamonds and take advantage of the inexpensive labour which costs roughly half of what the Israeli polisher earns," Mehta said.

The Israeli operation continues to grow in spite of the current recessionary conditions in the local diamond industry. Exports from Israel in 1980 were about \$20 million and the figures for the first six months of 1981 are ahead of last year's performance.

Kirilal Mehta moved to Israel in the early 1960s. "Bombay was too hot and Antwerp was too cold. Tel Aviv suited me best," he explains. A great booster of the Israeli diamond industry, he terms the diamond people here as "hard-working and energetic and able to bear anyone in the world" in the field of mines.

"Diamonds are a Jewish business, with 70-80 per cent of the industry in Jewish hands," Mehta says. People will continue to buy from Israel, especially if they can get all types of diamonds they require.

"There should be free trade here as in Belgium. If all of a buyer's requirements can be met locally, then Israel can even be 1-2 per cent more expensive. People will buy here in preference to Bombay."

InterPharm has first profit

Post Financial Reporter

TEL AVIV. — InterPharm, which specializes in the development and production of biological, diagnostic and related products for the health industry, has reported that in the second quarter of the year, ending on June 30, it had a net profit of \$150,480, or \$0.03 a share. The company's shares are traded on the "over-the-counter market" in the U.S. and it reports its results in shekels and U.S. dollars.

Sales for the quarter reached \$446,763. A year ago, for the same

period, InterPharm reported a net loss of nearly \$80,000. Approximately half of the current profit is made up of income resulting from earnings from the proceeds of the company's public issue.

Managing director Israel Makov reported that sales of human growth hormone nearly tripled in the second quarter, compared with the first quarter. They came to a total of \$370,000.

He also reported that InterYeda, a 60 per cent owned subsidiary, had begun sales of Frone, a human fibroblast interferon. InterYeda produces its human fibroblast by means of cell culture techniques developed by Weizmann Institute scientists.

Lidex, another InterPharm subsidiary, is preparing for the manufacture of devices to separate chemical and biological substances without the use of centrifuges. The technology is based on work done at the Technion.

InterPharm is located in the science-based industry park at Rehovot.

Boost in value added tax?

By SHLOMO MAOZ
Post Economic Reporter

The Treasury is planning to raise the Value Added Tax rates from 12 per cent to 14-15 per cent, and use the extra revenue to wipe out the debts of the local authorities and abolish municipal taxes. The extent of the VAT hike would vary from place to place in line with the fiscal needs of each local authority.

VAT is a levy imposed upon every stage in the marketing of nearly all goods and services.

Thus the price of bread might vary between, say, Tel Aviv and Ramat Gan if these localities decide to raise the VAT rate in their jurisdictions by different rates.

The plan to raise VAT, which might go into effect as early as October, was discussed last week in a conference held by Prof. Ezra Sudin, the Treasury director-general, and all the government bodies concerned.

The 12 per cent VAT collected

today would continue to go to the Treasury, with the remainder, also collected by the VAT authorities, going to the locale where it was collected.

Allowing local authorities to set the extent of the rate over 12 per cent would encourage local authorities to cut expenses and increase efficiency. Treasury officials believe. This would occur through competition with nearby localities. Residents would pressure local government to cut expenses so that less VAT would have to be paid on transactions, and business firms would tend to locate in areas with lower VAT rates.

The new system will not be instituted in the administered territories, so there the VAT rate would continue to be 12 per cent.

The State Revenue Administration estimates that each per cent of VAT brings in IS2 billion, and that an increase of 3 per cent would be enough to cover revenue lost from abolishing municipal rates.

Foreign currency reserves down \$67m.

Israel's foreign currency reserves dropped by \$67 million last month. During the last three months they decreased by \$113m.

A partial explanation of the drop lies in the weakening of European currencies against the dollar. As Israel's foreign reserves are measured in dollars, even if there is no fluctuation in the relative amounts of European and U.S. currency in the reserves, their value in dollars decreases as the dollar continues to gain in strength relative to the European currencies.

Israel Bonds raising \$110m. for canal project

About \$11 million have been raised so far for Israel's Mediterranean-Dead Sea canal project, in a special campaign by Israel Bonds in the U.S. An additional \$24m. has been pledged in the campaign, which hopes to raise a total of \$110m. for the project within the

next year-and-a-half.

The \$110m. is being solicited by Israel Bonds separately from its regular bond drive. It will be given to the state as start-up money for the project and will be spent for purposes such as planning, test drillings and geological surveys.

Zion Cables' profits soar

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Zion Cables has concluded the 1980/81 fiscal year with a net after-tax profit of IS26.4m., compared with IS5.6m. in the preceding year — a nominal increase of 371 per cent.

The company's sales have grown from IS57.8m. in fiscal 1979 to IS157.6m. this year. In terms of their U.S. dollar value, sales have grown from \$18.7m. to \$24m. — 28 per cent.

The company's board of directors has decided on a 30 per cent cash dividend — the first in the company's history — in addition to the distribution of 50 per cent bonus shares.

Most of the company's growth has come from its Eilat plant, which started operating three years ago, and has by now reached full production. The introduction of new technology has enabled the company to reduce its costs and to improve the quality of its products. In addition, the company's veteran plants in Sderot and Rishon LeZion have also increased their output, without any corresponding rise in the workforce.

Occupancy is up in Haifa hotels

Haifa hotels registered over 5,000 vacation nights during June and July. This good average is a result of the city's internal tourism scheme, under which Israelis were offered five nights for the price of four. The occupancy rate was 30 per cent higher than during last year's scheme.

This year Haifa hotels chalked up a 2.1 per cent rise in their occupancy rate, compared with a 1.7 per cent decline countrywide, the Haifa tourism development association announces.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1981

Israel for sale

THE LIKUD-Aguda pact (we shall overlook for the moment the only slightly less horrendous alliances with the NRP and Tami) is a triumph for the most extreme and unbending orthodoxies on both sides. Premier Begin, the super-patriotic Herut leader, and Rabbi Eliezer Schuch, the ultra-orthodox co-chairman of the Council of Sages, know one another, to have his price, and each one is prepared to pay in order to secure his own far-out partisan interest.

Premier Begin needs the support of sixty Knesset Members plus one to set up a regime dedicated, as will be stated in the "guidelines," to the eventual annexation, when the autonomy comes to an end, of Judea, Samaria and Gaza. The Aguda's four deputies will bring Mr. Begin's forces up to that magic number, 61, but for a price.

The price includes a few billion shekels that the phasing out of Sabbath service by the national carrier, El Al, will cost, and a few billions more that will be expended in further boosting financial aid for an independent religious school system that spurns even a semblance of state supervision.

The price also includes a mammoth expansion of the system of draft evasion: for the thousands of shirkers of army duty who at present register at yeshivot only to escape the draft, there could now be added thousands more shirkers "yeshiva teachers" whose credentials could never be checked, and on top of them untold numbers of "repentants."

All these are included in the price: and so are the thousands of married women now serving in the regular army, whom the Aguda has ordered back home where, according to the Council of Sages, they belong.

Rabbi Schuch, for his part, is not known to be nearly as committed a hawk as the premier. He may, in fact, very well understand that Mr. Begin's brand of politics could wreck the peace with Egypt, and land Israel in a war with all the Arabs and without a friend in the world. But while the venerable rabbi professes the greatest concern for the rule of the Torah, he acknowledges no responsibility whatever for the future of the State of Israel.

In the meantime the Aguda's spiritual leader has left his flock well provided for, with all manner of exemption and privilege that could, at this time, be extracted. But he has done something far more memorable. By persuading Mr. Begin to deny married women their right to serve in the regular army, he has started a genuine social counter-revolution in this country. The ban on "social" abortions, secured during Mr. Begin's first term, was child's play in its implications compared with this new measure.

To the Sages, of course, women are basically weak creatures that need a firm manly hand to steer them away from any contact with sin, such as the army which, to the Sages, is nothing but one huge brothel. This is nothing new. But now is the first time that a man who purports to be Israel's prime minister, and his choice for defence minister, have implicitly embraced this pernicious doctrine.

Extended a little, it could easily be applied, for example, to the work of married women in the police or doctors and nurses in government hospitals....

MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 1981

The goose and the gander

WHEN ARMY generals start giving unsolicited opinions in public about military matters that have already been decided at the political level, it is only proper that they should be called to order; even when what the generals have to say is merely what every clear-eyed observer can see as patent truth.

Such is the case with the two generals of the Northern Command who during the past 10 days have criticized the cease-fire with the PLO (or, as Israel's government, relying on the language of the official announcement, would have it, the cessation of all hostile action between Israel and Lebanon territory). The cease-fire was no sooner concluded than the OJC Northern Command, Aluf Avigdor Ben-Gal, himself called it a "tie" in the struggle between this country and the terrorists. Later his deputy, Tat-Aluf Amos Bar-Am, in the U.S. to argue the case for the anti-terrorist war, was reported to have described the cease-fire as a "mistake," before he amended it to read "not helpful."

The Deputy Defence Minister took both officers to task for their open-mouth strategy, and rightly so.

True, the cease-fire has independently been termed a tie — even a tie against Israel — by more than one commentator. Moreover, it requires no great military expertise to conclude from the known facts that Israel has emerged from this cease-fire with at least one arm tied behind its back — and with the enemy holding the political upper hand.

The public expression of such views by uniformed military personnel, however, is unacceptable in a democracy. However, neither the deputy minister nor his superiors have managed to find any fault with the enormous volume of political oratory by Chief of Staff Rafael Eitan.

Ruv-Aluf Eitan has on innumerable occasions issued a virtual military veto over the action of any part of Judea and Samaria by this or any future government, on the ground that without these areas Israel would be indefensible. The statements by the two Northern Command generals, though reprehensible in themselves, look pallid in comparison with the Chief of Staff's political fireworks.



Youngsters from Kibbutz Misgav Am, where terrorist shelling two weeks ago took the life of a mother of four, enjoy their stay in Jerusalem as guests of the city. (Rahamim Israeli)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 1981

The other side of the aisle

ISRAEL'S election process has now been fully completed; there is a new-old government coalition, the ministers and their troop of deputies will begin to settle in, and the Knesset too will devise a workable relationship between the equal-sized Likud and Alignment factions.

But in the corridors, the politicians still detect an electoral scent. A coalition majority of only two votes in the Knesset is, despite Mr. Begin's confident posture, a weak reed. It gives every MK, and especially the coalition members, a punch they never anticipated. The temptation to use it will have to be matched, in each instance, by robust deployment of the levers of party discipline. That is a dubious recipe for stability.

Moreover, the coalition parties themselves have a lingering interest in another go at the polls. There are those in the Likud who believe another such round, later in 1982, could, with Mr. Begin to garner the votes, give them a more decisive edge. The National Religious Party, for its part, wants to redress its losses, and Agudat Yisrael calculates that it would be guaranteed a gain of one, or perhaps even two more seats.

Ironically, it is the Labour opposition that has reason to fear a quick election. There would first have to be a decisive change in the public mood before it could feel confident about another electoral test.

Such a change would require broad public disaffection with the government and a renewed surge of Labour popularity.

It is possible to anticipate the first happening, either on foreign and security issues or over domestic and economic policy; it is less easy to foresee a change in Labour's fortunes. For that party, despite its impressive comeback in the June election, continues to be retarded by division at the top and an inability to project a winning image.

This has already enfeebled its capacity to play the role of a fighting opposition. Parliamentary guerrilla tactics about Knesset arrangements may be legitimate and baffle the politicians, but they have little interest for the general public. What is more telling is Labour's failure to enlist its array of former defence chiefs — from Mr. Rabin down — to denounce Mr. Sharon's deal with Agudat Yisrael to exempt a whole sector of the population from army service. Or its equal inability, for example, to shame the principled Prime Minister into barring from his cabinet table a minister arraigned on criminal charges.

The reasons for the weakness are plain: Mr. Peres is still not the master in his own house and the various private party armies are still more intent on contesting with each other than with the government party.

Little wonder, therefore, that within Labour there are those who question Mr. Peres' refusal to entertain the offers, however tenuous, of entering what is termed a national unity government. And little wonder too that this has triggered a whole new set of mutual suspicions that further debilitate the party's capacity to put a better foot forward.

Cohesion, discipline, attractive leadership and a persuasive programme are as essential for an opposition as they are for a party in power.

If Labour fails to demonstrate these qualities, it has nothing to seek at the polls. Even its criticism of the government, however merited, becomes perceived as carping partisanship rather than authoritative censure.

Until and unless Labour revamps itself, the slim majority of two on which Mr. Begin hangs is the difference not between a bad government and a better opposition, but between a bad government and none.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1981

The games people play

ONLY AT THE VERY last minute was Mr. Begin able to complete his cabinet. Herut's David Levy would not resume his seat as housing and construction minister. He was protesting against the transfer of the absorption ministry from his control to that of Aharon Abuhatzira, the former religious affairs minister who is now in charge of labour and social affairs. After some 30 hours of persuasion and the prize of a deputy-premiership, Mr. Levy agreed to serve again.

His earlier refusal elicited some cries of admiration. It is admittedly rather unusual for an Israeli politician, let alone for as favoured a politician as Mr. Levy, to give up a cabinet post for the sake of something that looks, at first blush, like principle. But what sort of principle is it precisely that Mr. Levy was upholding in this case?

Basically, it is the principle that a ministry is not so much an instrument of public service as a feudal fief to be held by the incumbent minister, so long as his party is a member of the ruling coalition, more-or-less in perpetuity. Mr. Abuhatzira himself claimed religious affairs as his "own" bailiwick — although he had in the meantime bolted the party that had originally assigned it to him — while it served his bargaining purpose in the recent coalition negotiations.

Mr. Abuhatzira and Mr. Levy are direct rivals for the leadership and support of the same ethnic constituency. Herut's debt to Mr. Levy — Number 2 on its list in the last election — for holding Mr. Abuhatzira at bay, if for nothing else, is undoubted. Mr. Levy must believe that this alone should have dictated Mr. Begin's entrusting absorption to him again. More important, he could not accept that his Herut appointees at absorption should now be at Mr. Abuhatzira's mercy.

Indeed, for this same reason Mr. Abuhatzira himself stuck so long to his guns to save his men at the religious ministry from redistribution at the hands of his successor, Dr. Burg.

That is the way things work. A ministry, needless to say, is the men and women who operate it; but in real life, as opposed to the textbooks, these are conceived not so much as public servants but as a power base for the minister. The loss of his power base at absorption is the main principle Mr. Levy was seeking to uphold.

Strangely, the same public that was delighted to hear Mr. Begin's assurance, in the course of the last campaign, that the institution of *protektzia* had vanished from the face of Israel's earth since the Likud's accession to power, seems to be accepting it as the natural order of things. No-one, in any case, raised the question, which of the two, Mr. Levy or Mr. Abuhatzira, if either, is the better choice for minister of absorption — or whether the absorption ministry deserves to be kept alive at all. This, three years after the Horev Commission in effect proposed the dismantling of the ministry as the best way of coping with the challenge of aliya and absorption.

READERS' LETTERS

THE DUTY OF A LOYAL OPPOSITION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — For several weeks your correspondence columns and a number of articles have contained insulting personal attacks on our Prime Minister, which are understandable (though not pardonable) in the heat of an election campaign.

The election is now behind us and I would like to make a plea to those who are disappointed with the results to abandon this vulgar and tasteless personal abuse and confine their criticisms to legitimate political issues expressed in a measured and dignified manner.

JERUSALEM. GERSHON YEYIN

VERDICT OF THE VOTERS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — The comment in your editorial of July 8 that "surely the Alignment's first duty will be to oppose the government that Mr. Begin is likely to form and to hasten its demise by all parliamentary means available," deserves a response.

Any government which Prime Minister Begin may form is one which will receive the approval of a majority of the members of the Knesset duly chosen by the citizens of Israel. It will be a government democratically elected in accordance with the laws of the state.

JERUSALEM. S. SILVER

RIDICULOUS PROPHECIES OF DOOM

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — The elections to the Tenth Knesset have been a total disaster for our country. Parties have wasted a remarkable amount of money, divided the country in two, causing a lot of unnecessary bitterness, and weakened the position of Jews in the Diaspora by the complete disunity of our country.

Thank God, it appears that Menachem Begin will be leading the Likud through another term in office. The last thing this country needs is another election campaign in the near future. What is important is that those politicians bent on their own power, instead of the good of Israel spend the next few years trying to heal the wounds that have so tragically gashed our country. It is about time that people stopped thinking that if Begin is in power or if Peres is in power, the country will collapse.

JERUSALEM. MIKE BLOOM

GOOD FAITH AND BRITISH TELEVISION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I would like to draw your readers' attention to two television documentaries which were shown in Britain recently. The first, a three-part series, "Hanging fire: The State of Israel" was shown on June 11, 18 and 25, while the other, "Whose hand on the tap?" was made by Thames Television and shown on the commercial channel on July 7.

Both programmes were strongly critical of Israel — as many TV programmes in this country are — but went even further by portraying Israelis and Jews in a way that was bordering on anti-Semitism.

While arguing with the TV authorities is our task in this country, I want to point out that a large number of Israeli citizens were interviewed in both programmes and by mischievous editing, it was, in fact, through their words that the strongest condemnation was presented.

I wonder if Chaim Herzog, Uri Avneri and Meir Ben-Meir, who is the water commissioner, know what is being done with interviews which they grant to the British TV crews in good faith. Isn't it time for them and the other Israelis who agree to be interviewed to stop such cooperation in view of the hostile attitude of the producers and the treatment they receive in the finished programmes? I would be surprised if Mr. Herzog would not be outraged by the way in which his comments about the democratic nature of Israeli occupation of the West Bank were superimposed on film showing Israeli troops attacking young Arabs on the streets.

WEMBLEY, MIDD. ARTHUR LEMBERG

JORDAN AND PALESTINE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I am writing to you about the recent article on Aharon Yariv in which he states that "the idea that Jordan is Palestine might be just and correct, but it is irrelevant."

While he is entitled to his opinion I find it very sad that he regards something that is "just and correct" to be irrelevant for Israel. Surely,

JERUSALEM. URI RABIN

BEGIN'S POLITICAL HORSE-TRADING

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I am writing to express my grave concern over the proposed change in the Law of Return which would preclude the recognition in Israel of conversions performed by non-Orthodox rabbis.

As a founding and still active member of Gharin Nitzan, the first Conservative group for group allyah, I am intimately acquainted with the ongoing struggle to make the State of Israel not only a cause worth supporting but also a life worth living. As a congregational rabbi in the Conservative movement, I sometimes feel that my colleagues and I do more *hasbara* for Israel than Israel does for itself.

From both of these perspectives, as a potential oleh and as a non-Orthodox leader of the American Jewish community, I am deeply troubled by Prime Minister Begin's political horse trading with Israel's right-wing religious parties. Are two or three seats in the Knesset, even if they mean a majority, really worth the price of the alienation of the vast majority of American Jewry and its undivided monetary and spiritual support? Obviously they are to Mr. Begin, at least on a short-term basis.

Unfortunately, Mr. Begin has us where he wants us. Our love of and devotion to Israel must and will somehow transcend this affront to us and free-thinking people everywhere. I have no doubt, however, that, as it becomes more and more difficult to explain this policy to my congregants and to Jews throughout the United States, this short-sighted political play will take its toll.

RABBI GERALD C. SKOLNIK
Forest Hills, New York.

CONSERVATIVE AND REFORM RABBIS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — On the same day (July 15) you published the letter "Conversion" by Louis Rabinowitz. I received a letter from a correspondent of mine in the south of New York State from which I quote: "The aliya shaliyah told me I would have difficulty in Israel since I was converted by a Reform Beit Din. He suggested I see a specific Orthodox rabbi in the Bronx. The Orthodox rabbi agreed to convert me within a week for the sum of \$500."

RABBI HENRY F. SKIRBALL
Jerusalem.

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I am in complete agreement with the sentiments expressed by Rabbi Louis Rabinowitz in his letter of July 15 pertaining to the young Reform rabbi from Montreal who came to New York to officiate at a mixed marriage.

But it was most unfortunate that Rabbi Rabinowitz chose to lump together Conservative rabbis with Reform rabbis who "will marry almost anyone."

I don't know how many Reform rabbis are guilty of this practice, although I do understand that the Reform Movement does not discipline such rabbis. I can tell you, however, that in the Conservative Movement, this practice is most certainly not tolerated and Conservative rabbis who are found guilty of this practice are subject to expulsion from the rabbinic association (Rabbinical Assembly) of the Conservative Movement.

RABBI BERNARD SEGAL
Past Executive Vice-President,
Jerusalem. Rabbinical Assembly

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